REPORT

FROM THE

COMMITTEE

FOR

PROMULGATION

OF THE

STATUTES.

Ordered to be printed 5th December 1796.

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MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

Ordered to be printed 5th December 1796.

THE COMMITTEE appointed to conſider of the moſt effectual Means of Promulgating the Statutes of the Realm, and to report the ſame, with their Obſervations, to the Houſe; and who were inſtructed, by an Order of the Houſe, to take into their Conſideration ſo much of the Report (made upon the 13th Day of *May* in the laſt Seſſion of Parliament) upon Temporary Laws, as relates to the Matter of the preſent Inquiry; —have, purſuant to the Order of the Houſe, proceeded upon the Matters referred to them, and have agreed upon the following Report.

REPORT.

IN order to lay before the Houſe the Courſe which has been taken upon this Inquiry, and to exhibit more diſtinctly the Reaſons for the Reſult in which it has terminated, YOUR COMMITTEE beg leave to repreſent what have appeared to Them to be, 1ſt. The preſent State of the Promulgation of the Statute Law; 2dly. The general Objects to which the Promulgation might be uſefully extended; 3dly. The Means by which a very large and immediate Extenſion may be obtained; 4th. The Manner in which theſe Means may be employed, and the Selection of the Objects to which they ſhould be applied, for the Purpoſe of rendering ſuch an Extenſion moſt effectual: At the Cloſe of theſe Conſiderations, Your Committee have ſtated the Parliamentary Precedents moſt applicable to the Meaſures which they have preſumed to propoſe; and They have alſo ſubjoined to their Report, by way of Appendix, ſeveral Documents collected in Proof of the Facts which They thought it neceſſary to aſcertain; conceiving that the Preſervation of thoſe Documents may not be wholly unprofitable for other Purpoſes of public Service.

§ I.

THE ONLY MODE IN WHICH THE STATUTES ARE NOW PROMULGATED, is the Publication of them by the King's Printer. Your Committee have not been able to diſcover at what preciſe Period of Time the Statutes of the Realm were firſt printed by public Authority; but it appears that the ancient Mode of promulgating them by the Sheriff's Proclamation fell into Diſuſe very ſoon

after the Introduction of the Art of Printing*. Private Editors, in the Fifteenth Century, publiſhed particular Collections of the Statutes; and in the Reign of James the Firſt, the King's Printers publiſhed Collections which were more complete. Immediately after the Reſtoration of Charles the Second, the Condition of the original Statute Rolls, and the Regulations fit to be obſerved in printing their Contents, became an Object of joint Care to both Houſes of Parliament. The Houſe of Commons, in 1661, reſolved upon a Meſſage to the Houſe of Lords, repreſenting their own Anxiety that proper Meaſures might be taken upon the Subject; and the Precautions then propoſed, for guarding the Records with due Care during the Proceſs of Printing, are obſerved at this Day†.

The

* The laſt Proclamation Writ, to be found upon the Statute Rolls in the Tower, bears Date 8 Ric. II. *viz.* in the Year 1385. Lord *Coke* ſays, that the Writ obtained before Printing came into Uſe, and continued to iſſue till Hen. VII. 2 *Inſt.* 526.

The Journals do not ſhew the Commencement of printing the Statutes of each Seſſion by Authority: In the *Journ. Ho. Com. Vol. I. p.* 446. there is the following Entry of a Motion made 5th July, 1610. "To print all Statutes not printed: "Old, that be for the good of the King or Subject, ſhould be printed;" but it does not appear that any Order was made for the Purpoſe. And in the *Lords' Journ. Vol. XXI. p.* 347. there is the following Entry of an Order, made 3d June, 1720. "Ordered by the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament aſſembled, that all "ſuch Acts of Parliament as ſhall paſs this Seſſion, which are in their own Nature "Public Acts, or wherein are contained Clauſes, declaring that they ſhall be allowed "in all Courts of Judicature as Public Acts, be printed and publiſhed." But this could not be the Commencement of the preſent Uſage; becauſe there exiſts at preſent, in the Cuſtody of the Officers belonging to the Houſe, a regular Series of the Statutes annually publiſhed by the King's Printer, from the 1ſt Year of W. & M. downwards.

Some Collections of particular Statutes were firſt printed by private Editors in 1497; and the Series of the different Collections and Editions, which have been ſince publiſhed, is enumerated in *The Report upon Temporary Laws, p. 7. notis.*

† The Entry upon the Journals of the Houſe of Commons *11th January*, 1661, ſtands thus, "Upon Information given to this Houſe, that the Clerk of the Houſe of "Lords did permit the original Rolls of Acts of Parliament to be carried to the "Printer, and that they were ripped in Pieces, and blotted, and abuſed, and in Danger "of being embezzled or altered; RESOLVED, That a Meſſage be ſent to the Lords, "to deſire them to give Order, that the original Rolls of Acts of Parliament be kept "in the Office, and not delivered to the Printer; but that true Copies be delivered "to him from the Roll, fairly written, and carefully examined and atteſted." It has been

The STATUTES, printed by the King's Printer are at the End of each Seſſion collected by him into VOLUMES. Theſe Volumes comprize in fact all the Statutes which are intrinſically of a Public Nature, and all thoſe Local or Perſonal Statutes, which are made Public Statutes by a ſpecial Clauſe to that Effect, the Road Acts only excepted; they contain alſo an Abſtract of the ſame Acts, which is only an unauthentic Abbreviation of all the preceding Pages; and to each Volume are ſuperadded, One Table of the Titles of the Public Statutes, and another of the Private Statutes, which paſs in each Seſſion; although none of the latter Claſs are included in the Publication, or are ever printed by Royal Authority.

The DISTRIBUTION of theſe Volumes is confined within a very limited Circle of Perſons, to whom it has been long cuſtomary for the King's Printer to make his Delivery. The Members of each Houſe of Parliament, the Privy Council, and ſome few of the great Officers of State, are almoſt the only Perſons to whom the Diſtribution at preſent extends. The whole Number of Copies iſſued at the public Coſt very little exceeds Eleven hundred *; and no complete Copy of any Seſſional Collection has been purchaſed from the King's Printer by private Individuals for many Years paſt: He prints, however, for Sale upon his own Account, a large Number of ſuch Acts as are moſt likely to be in general Requeſt.

EXPEDITION in promulgating Public Statutes, muſt ever be an important Object of Attention: And in general, as far as the preſent Diſtribution extends, ſuch Acts as are of urgent Neceſſity are circulated in Print very quickly after they have received the Royal Aſſent; the other Acts of the Seſſion being deferred to more diſtant Periods of Publication. Beyond this Sphere of Cir-

been juſtly remarked, that no Entry is found in the Lords' Journal, that this Meſſage was delivered. See *Mr. Hatſell's Precedents of Proceedings* in the Houſe of Commons, Edit. 1796, Vol. III. p. 52. But the ſubſequent Uſage being in exact Conformity to the Terms of the Meſſage which was voted, it may be fairly preſumed, that the Silence of the Lords' Journal muſt have been probably owing to an accidental Omiſſion.

* See APPENDIX, No. I.

culation,

culation, however, not only the Notoriety of the Statute Law depends entirely upon the Extent in which the Statutes may happen to be purchaſed, but the Whole of the Annual Maſs of Public Laws of each Seſſion of Parliament cannot be obtained, even by Purchaſe, until long after the Seſſion has cloſed, though many of theſe Laws may require inſtant Obſervance: And the Poſſeſſion of this entire Collection, even when obtained at conſiderable Coſt, has become a Burthen to the Poſſeſſor, from the Size of the Volumes, occaſioned by the Multiplicity of Local Laws which they contain.

Your Committee, in ſtating theſe Facts, beg Leave at the ſame Time to diſclaim any Intention of imputing Blame to thoſe who, in the Enjoyment of their Rights and Diſcharge of their Duty as Patentees of the Crown, only follow the Uſage of their Predeceſſors, from which they have never been required to depart: And when Your Committee proceed to finiſh their Statement upon this Head, by remarking, that the Publications in ordinary Uſe (from whence alone any general Knowledge of the Statutes is diffuſed through the Nation) ſeldom appear until ſeveral Months after their Enactment, They are alſo aware, that inaſmuch as theſe Publications are only Matter of private Undertaking, the Mode of conducting them is not directly ſubject to Parliamentary Controul or Cenſure *. Theſe nevertheleſs are the Facts reſpecting this important Subject; and They cannot but feel, that it would be a culpable Silence on their Part, if They forbore to ſtate them without Diſguiſe or Reſerve.

§ 2. SUCH

* Errors of TYPOGRAPHY, and of PUNCTUATION, are not unimportant, if they lead to practical Miſchief; and numberleſs are the Inſtances of theſe Defects in the preſent Editions of our Statutes: Inſtances from Times anterior to our own are as deciſive as any which might be more recent, and their Selection is leſs invidious.

TYPOGRAPHY.—AS TO FREEDOM OF SPEECH IN PARLIAMENT.—The following may be deemed a material Error of Typography, or perhaps an Error of a more important Nature.—The Statute 4 Hen. 8. c. 8. commonly called Strode's Act, is noted to be a PRIVATE Act in the ſeveral Editions publiſhed by *Hawkins*, *Ruffhead*, and *Runnington*, whereas this Statute is a PUBLIC AND GENERAL ſubſiſting Law, not only in the Opinion of Lord *Coke* and of *Prynne*, but is alſo declared to be ſuch

§ 2.

SUCH being the preſent Mode of PROMULGATION, and ſuch its Defects, Your Committee have been next led to conſider of THE GENERAL OBJECTS TO WHICH IT MIGHT BE USEFULLY EXTENDED; and with this View They have proceeded, firſt,

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ſuch by the formal Reſolutions of both Houſes of Parliament.—See *Mr. Hatſell's Precedents of Proceedings in the Houſe of Commons*, Edit. 1796, Vol. I. p. 85. and 212. And upon the original Roll itſelf the Royal Aſſent is indorſed, in the ſame Form as upon every other Public Act, *viz.* "Le Roy le veult."

AS TO JURIES.—The Right of every Plaintiff, to have a Jury completed by the Tales de circumſtantibus, was firſt eſtabliſhed by Stat. 35 Hen. 8. c. 6. ſ. 6. whereby it is enacted, "That where a full Jury ſhall not appear before the Juſtices of Aſſizes "or Niſi Prius, &c. that then the ſame Juſtices, upon Requeſt made by the Party "Plaintiff or Demandant, ſhall have Authority to command the Sheriff, &c. to name, "&c. ſo many of ſuch able Perſons, &c. as ſhall make up a full Jury."

Afterwards the Right of the "Defendant" was provided for by Stat. 14 Eliz. c. 9. ſ. 1. whereby it is enacted, That in all Caſes where the Party Plaintiff or Demandant may have a Tales, the Party "Defendant" may have the Tales granted in like Manner.

But in the Editions by *Hawkins*, *Ruffhead*, *Runnington*, and *Pickering*, in Stat. 35 Hen. 8. the Word "Defendant" is printed for the Word "Demandant," which is different from the original Roll.

Thus, any Party Defendant is referred for his Right to Stat. 35 Hen. 8. c. 6. which gives him no Right at all; and the Stat. 14 Eliz. c. 9. appears to be a ſuperfluous Grant, whereas it is the only Source of his Privilege. To make the verbal Confuſion greater, though it renders the Error more conſpicuous, the Stat. 4, 5 Philip and Mary, c. 7. recites the Stat. 35 Hen. VIII. c. 6. differently from what it appears to be in the ſame printed Editions, but correctly according to the original Roll.

UPON THE ANNUITY ACT, 17 Geo. III. c. 26. ſ. 4. ſo much and ſo minutely diſcuſſed in all our Courts of Law and Equity, another Inſtance occurs of a material Error in the ordinary Editions.—The Statute upon the original Roll, marked 192, in the Clauſe which correſponds with what is marked § 4. in the printed Edition, makes it lawful "to apply to the Court in which any Action is brought OR Judg-"ment entered, &c.;" but *Runnington* and *Pickering* have printed it erroneouſly in a material Word, by making it lawful "to apply to the Court in which any Action "is brought ON Judgment entered;" thereby requiring a Judgment to have been entered, and an Action to have been commenced upon that Judgment, before Relief could be had by Application to the Court.

PUNCTUATION.—AS TO THE JURISDICTION OF JUSTICES OF THE PEACE OVER THE RATES OF LAND CARRIAGE. The following is a very material Inſtance of the Miſchief produced by a Species of erroneous Punctuation, even upon the Statute Roll itſelf.

By St. 3 W. & M. c. 12. ſ. 24. The JUSTICES are empowered to rate the Price of all Land Carriage of Goods to be brought "into" any Place within their

firſt, to examine whether any other Courſe of Proceeding is already in uſe for Purpoſes analogous to thoſe of their preſent Inquiry, and to obſerve the Extent of its Operation, and the Objects to which it is directed.

Juriſdiction by any common Waggoner or Carrier: And by 21 Geo. II. c. 28. ſ. 3. CARRIERS are prohibited from taking more for bringing Goods "to London than" is ſettled by the Juſtices under 3 W. & M. &c. for the Carriage of Goods "from London," for which Purpoſe the Rates ſettled in the Country are to be certified to the Magiſtrates, &c. of Middleſex, Surry, and Weſtminſter.

An Act afterwards, however, paſſed, viz. 7 Geo. III. c. 40. § 61. which is printed from the Statute Roll 192, Preſs 54, in the following Manner, by the *King's Printer*, in the Fol. Edition, and in thoſe by *Ruffhead*, *Runnington*, and *Pickering*.

"And be it further Enacted that &c. An Act paſſed in the 21 Geo. II. (intituled An Act "to explain and amend An Act paſſed in the 14th Year of his Majeſty's Reign, intituled "An Act for the Preſervation of the public Roads in that Part of Great Britain called "England) and ſo much of an Act paſſed in the 3d Year of the Reign of King William "and Queen Mary (intituled An Act for the better repairing and amending the Highways "and for ſettling the Rates of the Carriage of Goods as relates to the ſettling the Rates "of the Carriage of Goods) except ſo much thereof as relates to the Rate or Price for "Carriage of Goods &c. ſhall be and the ſame are hereby repealed."

From this laſt Act, ſo printed and pointed, an Opinion has been entertained, that the Stat. 21 Geo. II. c. 28. was repealed: And *Burn*, in his *Juſtice of the Peace*, commenting upon this Statute, under Title *Carriers*, confirmed the Public in this Opinion, having expreſsly aſſerted the Repeal; but the Opinion and the Comment are both erroneous; and the Second Statute, as well as the Firſt, is undoubtedly ſtill in Force, and this beneficial Juriſdiction remains ſtill veſted in the Magiſtrates.

The Miſtake has ariſen wholly from the Mode of PUNCTUATION by way of Parentheſis, the Words "except ſo much thereof as relates to the Rate or Price for "Carriage of Goods, *&c.*" being made to relate to Stat. 3. W. and M. inſtead of relating to the Stat. 21 Geo. II. which is their true Senſe; and the Parentheſis being meant, by the Framer of this Act, to include the whole Title of Stat. 21 Geo. II. and to extend from the Words "21 Geo. II." to the Words "except ſo much, *&c.*"

And that this is an exiſting Miſtake in the Statute Book is obvious; 1ſt. Becauſe the Statutes repealed by Stat. 7 Geo. III. c. 40. are all enumerated chronologically, beginning with 1 Geo. II. and coming down to 6 Geo. III.; and therefore if the Stat. 3 W. and M. had been deſigned to be repealed in Part, it would have been placed firſt in Order. 2dly, Becauſe the Legiſlature muſt otherwiſe be ſuppoſed to enact ſuch Nonſenſe as this, viz. "that ſo much of an Act of William and Mary, intituled, &c. except ſo much thereof as relates to the Price for Carriage of Goods, "be repealed." And 3dly, In the 17th Edition of *Burn's Juſtice of the Peace*, his former Commentary upon this Point is altered accordingly.

The original Error nevertheleſs ſtill ſubſiſts upon the Roll and in the Statute Book, and the erroneous Opinion introduced by this erroneous Punctuation ſtill prevails in many Places, and the Operation of a very beneficial Law is defeated.

ROYAL

ROYAL PROCLAMATIONS occurred to Your Committee, as requiring a Circulation very ſimilar to that which might be proper for the Statutes. The Scheme of their Circulation has been produced from the Crown Office, and it appears to be this*: A Writ is iſſued under the Great Seal of Great Britain to the Sheriff of every County in England and Scotland, and to the Steward of certain Stewartries in Scotland, and to the Biſhop of Ely, commanding them ſeverally to publiſh the particular Proclamation which is ſet forth in Schedules annexed to the Writ; and of this Proclamation Fourteen Copies are tranſmitted with each Writ, to be affixed (according to the Language of the Writ) "on Boards "and Poſts in ſeparate, diſtinct, and public Places." Similar Writs are directed to the Chief Magiſtrates of certain Cities and Towns, being Twenty-ſix in Number; and each of theſe Writs is accompanied with Five Copies, except that the Cities of London and York, and alſo the Lord Steward of the Houſhold, and the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, ſeverally receive Twenty-four Copies for Diſtribution within their reſpective Juriſdictions. Upon this Detail it is to be remarked, that although the Sheriff of each County has been deemed to be one of the fitteſt miniſterial Officers to make this Diſtribution, yet no Writs for the ſame Purpoſe have ever been iſſued to the Sheriff or any other Officer of any County within the Principality of Wales; and in the Catalogue of Cities and Towns to which they are iſſued, ſome Towns not of the greateſt Note are included, and ſeveral of the moſt antient and conſiderable Cities in the Kingdom are omitted†.

The Royal Proclamations are the only Acts of public Authority thus generally circulated; and it appeared to Your Committee, that the Mode of Circulation eſtabliſhed in that Inſtance, however well adapted to the particular Caſe, was not a proper or even a practicable Mode of promulgating the Statutes of the

* See APPENDIX, N° II.

† This Catalogue includes Ipſwich and Colcheſter, and omits Bath, Wells, Peterborough, Durham, and Carliſle.

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* See APPENDIX, No. II

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NEW SARUM, 43 Eliz. B
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r Committee therefore proceeded next to an Ex-
the Objects in reſpect to which a Circulation of the
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ceſſion of His preſent Majeſty, has accordingly been
Your Committee *: And upon Inſpection They
ſtinct Commiſſions are iſſued for every County of
th the additional Circumſtance of ſeparate Commiſ-
for each of the Three ſeveral Ridings of Yorkſhire,
of the Three ſeveral Diviſions of Lincolnſhire; that
iſſue for each of the Counties of Scotland, and for the
Kircudbright; and that Seventeen other Commiſ-
r ſubordinate Juriſdictions in England, namely, for
Seven Towns, and Eight Liberties or Franchiſes;
o which latter Claſs it appears alſo, that ſince the
een Elizabeth, Commiſſions of the Peace have been
ued to various other Places, which do not at preſent
vilege †.

Your

DIX, No. III.

ONS OF THE PEACE. It appears, upon the Calendars of the
Chancery, that in the Reign of Queen Elizabeth, Commiſſions
e iſſued for the following Places, which have not been ſince re-
IELD, 37 Eliz. CHELTENHAM, 38 Eliz. CHICHESTER, 42 Eliz.
43 Eliz. BURY Town and BURY Liberty, 43 Eliz. BEVERLY
. WARWICK, 44 Eliz.—During the Commonwealth ſimilar
e iſſued, which have not been ſince renewed. NORWICH, for
riſt Church, and the Biſhops Palace, *viz.* 1656. ABINGDON,
GFORD, 1658.—In the Reign of Charles the Second for the fol-
iberty of the Hundred of NASSOBROUGH, Co. Notts. 12 Car. II.
II. THETFORD, 21 Car. II. WOODSTOCK, 27 Car. II. GLOU-
25 Car. II. LUDLOW, 36 Car. II. DOVER, 37 Car. II.—

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by iſſuing ſeparate Commiſſions of the Peace to all ſuch Pla
and Diſtricts as require an additional Aſſiſtance to their Ju
cature: And Meaſures like theſe, if adopted in either Mode, wo
not tend to create any new Powers of Judicature, or to incre
the Number of Exempt Juriſdictions, but would directly tend
multiply the Number of Magiſtrates, and contribute to carry
Laws more effectually into Execution.

In the further Proſecution of theſe Conſiderations, Yo
Committee have next proceeded to obtain Returns from eve
County and Diſtrict in the United Kingdoms, in order to aſce
tain the reſpective Number of RESIDENT ACTING JUSTIC
under every Commiſſion of the Peace. The total Number of ſu
Juſtices appears to be about Four thouſand; and the particul
Documents by which this Reſult is aſcertained are depoſit
among the Papers of the Seſſion *.

If a Parochial Promulgation of the Statutes ſhould ever
projected, it would then become neceſſary alſo to obſerve, th
the Number of PARISHES in Great Britain is ſuppoſed to be ne
Eleven thouſand †; an Eſtimate however, which after ma
ſucceſſive Variations is ſtill ſuffered to reſt upon Repute, unſup
ported by any complete and authentic Survey.

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* See APPENDIX, No. V.

† See APPENDIX, No. VI.

The Number of PARISHES in Great Britain is not eaſily aſcertained. The ſu
poſed Numbers vary very much, according to different Authorities; and, beſides th
many new Pariſhes are from Time to Time erected by Act of Parliament, it is n
unfrequently Matter of legal Diſpute, whether a given Place be Parochial or Ext
Parochial.

In Scotland according to The COLLECTOR OF FUNDS FOR MINISTERS' WIDOWS		89
In England And In Wales	CAMDEN	9,28
	LIBER REGIS	9,30
	Account taken by WOLSEY	9,49
	Diſtricts rateable to the Poor according to the RETURNS made to the Ho. Com. in 1787	14,64

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Thus far Your Committee have presumed to state, in Obedience to the Order of the House, such Observations as have occurred to them in pursuing this Part of their Inquiry; Observations which they do not conceive to be irrelevant to it, inasmuch as every complete End for the Promulgation of Laws must be commensurate with the System of Jurisdictions by which the Laws are or may be administered.

§ 3.

THE MEANS OF EXTENDING THE PROMULGATION OF THE STATUTES, are the next Object to which the Deliberations of Your Committee have been directed.

With this View, They have thought fit to begin by investigating the various Materials of which every Sessional Collection is composed; and to consider, whether by diminishing the Bulk of the Article to be distributed, without impairing its general Utility, they might not be enabled to obtain very considerable Advantages. And in pursuing this Investigation, They think it manifest, that the Contents of these Volumes will when analysed be found to allow of some important Distinctions, by the Help of which the Distribution may be rendered more convenient and serviceable, and at the same Time far more numerous and extensive than at present, without adding to the public Expenditure for this Service in any Degree whatsoever.

In endeavouring to state their Ideas upon this Head with sufficient Perspicuity, They must beg Leave to enter into some Details, which may appear to be minute, but which They conceive to be of essential Importance to the Consideration of the Subject.

It cannot have escaped the Attention of any who have opened the Annual Volumes of our Statutes, that the Acts which are, politically and legally speaking, of a PUBLIC AND GENERAL Nature,

ture, bear a very ſmall Proportion to the whole Maſs*. But it may not have been commonly noticed, that the LOCAL ACTS, reſpecting Drainages, Bridges, Churches, Canals, &c. which by ſpecial Clauſes and for particular Uſes are declared to be Public, fill more than double the Space occupied by the firſt and more important Claſs; and this Exceſs is the more ſtriking as the Road Acts are not included in this Eſtimate of the LOCAL ACTS, the Road Acts not being printed with the

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* PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ACTS.—I. IN LEGAL LANGUAGE.—1. Acts are deemed to be PUBLIC and GENERAL Acts, which the Judges will take Notice of without pleading, viz. Acts concerning the King, the Queen, and the Prince; thoſe concerning all Prelates Nobles and great Officers; thoſe concerning the whole Spiritualty; and thoſe which concern all Officers in general, ſuch as all Sheriffs, &c.—Acts concerning Trade in general, or any ſpecific Trade;—Acts concerning all Perſons generally, though it be a ſpecial or particular Thing, ſuch as a Statute concerning Aſſizes, or Woods in Foreſts Chaſes, &c. *Comyns's Dig.* tit. *Parliament.* (R. 6.) 2. PRIVATE Acts are thoſe which concern only a particular Species, or Thing, or Perſon, of which the Judges will not take Notice without pleading them, viz. Acts relating to the Biſhops only; Acts for Toleration of Diſſenters; Acts relating to any particular Place or Town, or to divers particular Towns, or to One or divers particular Counties, or to the Colleges only in the Univerſities. *Comyns's Dig.* tit. *Parliament.* (R. 7.) 3. IN A GENERAL Act there may be a PRIVATE Clauſe, *ibid*; and a PRIVATE Act, if recognized by a PUBLIC Act, muſt afterwards be noticed by the Courts as ſuch. 2 *Term. Rep.* 569.

II. IN PARLIAMENTARY LANGUAGE.—1. The Diſtinction between PUBLIC and PRIVATE Bills ſtands upon different Grounds as to Fees.—All Bills whatever, from which private Perſons, Corporations, &c. derive Benefit, are ſubject to the Payment of Fees, and ſuch Bills are in this reſpect denominated PRIVATE Bills.—Inſtances of Bills within this Deſcription are enumerated in the *2d Vol. of Mr. Hatſell's Precedents of Proceedings in the Houſe of Commons*, edit. 1796. p. 267, &c.—2. In Parliamentary Language, another Sort of Diſtinction is alſo uſed; and ſome Acts are called PUBLIC GENERAL Acts; others PUBLIC LOCAL Acts, viz. Church Acts, Canal Acts, &c. to this Claſs might alſo be added ſome Acts which, though Public are merely Perſonal, viz. Acts of Attainder and Patent Acts, &c. and others are called PRIVATE Acts; of which latter Claſs, ſome are Local, viz. Incloſure Acts, &c. and ſome Perſonal, viz. ſuch as relate to Names, Eſtates, Divorces, &c.

Reſt

Reſt of the Statutes *. It may alſo have eſcaped Notice, that the Abſtracts annually ſubjoined to each Collection, which are the mere private Performance of inferior Perſons in the Service of the Editors, alſo contribute very largely to the Bulk of theſe Volumes. And it muſt not paſs unobſerved, that the mere Repetition of uſeleſs Titles, in the total Impreſſion of One of theſe Seſſional Collections, even according to the preſent limited Degree of their Publication, appears to have amounted nearly to Three hundred Thouſand Pages.

What Your Committee would therefore propoſe is, to exclude from the Collection of Public Acts, all the Local Acts, all the Abſtracts, and all the uſeleſs Repetitions of Titles. The Size of the Type and Paper, which are now in uſe, and of thoſe which might be uſed, have been conſidered; but no Change in theſe Particulars is propoſed; becauſe the Purpoſes of Oeconomy and mere Multiplication, which certainly might be anſwered by ſuch a Change, would perhaps not compenſate for the Loſs of other Conveniencies,

* The following TABLE ſhews the Number of PUBLIC LOCAL ACTS which paſſed in each of the following Years.

During 12 Years; viz.	1785.	1786.	1787.	1788	1789.	1790	1791.	1792.	1793.	1794.	1795.	1796.	Total.
Roads, Bridges, &c.	31	40	30	37	36	30	44	54	62	33	37	26	460
Canals, Harbours, &c.	7	4	3	5	6	9	13	27	32	20	12	17	145
Incloſures, Drainages, &c.	22	25	29	36	36	27	39	41	62	2	4	5	318
Churches, Paving, and other Parochial Improvements	20	14	14	14	18	20	20	19	15	9	13	10	186
TOTAL	80	83	66	92	96	86	116	131	171	64	66	58	1,109

Conveniencies, which attend the preſent Mode; and Changes of doubtful Uſe are what Your Committee wiſh to avoid.

If the Houſe therefore ſhould be of Opinion, that, for the ſake of extending the Promulgation of the Firſt Claſs of Statutes (which alone are eſſentially of a public Nature) the Impreſſion of the Local Acts may be properly reduced to ſuch a Number as Your Committee ſhall propoſe, and that thoſe unauthorized Abſtracts and uſeleſs Title Pages may alſo be laid aſide, it will follow as a Conſequence of this Inquiry, warranted by the Calculations produced* and the Repreſentations made by the Patentees, to whom the Publication is at preſent entruſted, that THE DISTRIBUTION MAY BE EXTENDED WITHOUT ANY INCREASE OF EXPENSE, from its preſent Number, which ſcarcely exceeds Eleven hundred,

* Theſe Calculations are founded upon the proportionate Amount of the Public General, and Public Local Acts, taken upon an Average of Ten Years; thus:

Years.	Sheets of General Acts.	Of Local Acts.	Of Abſtracts.
1787.	201	195	64
1788.	188	308	73
1789.	197	324	75
1790.	178	287	58
1791.	195	643	96
1792.	203	632	103
1793.	267	726	154
1794.	173	371	107
1795.	223	267	94
1796.	187	301	98
	10)2012	10)4054	10)922
	201	405	92

And as the printing of the Public General Acts is only propoſed to be increaſed, by diminiſhing the Impreſſion of the Public Local Acts, the total Expenſe of the Public will always be the ſame as if the preſent Mode had continued; although the actual Quantity of Letter Preſs, and conſequently the actual Expenſe, muſt vary according to the Number and Length of the Statutes paſſed in each Year; a Variation incident to every poſſible Plan whatever.

TO ABOVE THREE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED COPIES, diſpoſeable for the public Service *.

By ſuch a Clearance of the Statute Book, this Text Edition of the Statutes will approach alſo more nearly to its proper Dignity, excluding many Laws which are rather of the Nature of judicial Decrees or Arbitraments between private Parties upon Matters of private Intereſt, and carrying forth to the Nation, as Public Laws, thoſe only which profeſs to be founded on Principles of general Policy and univerſal Obligation †.

§ 4.

WHAT Manner of Diſtribution might beſt anſwer the Exigencies of the Public Service, and what Selection of Objects would be moſt expedient, if this Proceſs ſhould be adopted, and if the Circulation of the Statutes ſhould receive this increaſed Extenſion, are Queſtions which have engaged the Attention of Your Committee, as Their ultimate Concern. They have therefore conſidered of the moſt beneficial Mode of circulating the PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS, according to theſe additional Means: They have conſidered alſo of the moſt uſeful Appropriation of the PUBLIC LOCAL ACTS, according to their propoſed Reſtrictions: And They have endeavoured to provide a Method for procuring an effectual Acceſs to all the PRIVATE ACTS, without any new Charge to the Public Account. The Principles upon which

* An Impreſſion of 2424 additional Copies, according to the preſent Plan of Publication, would coſt to the Public the additional Sum of not leſs than £.14,000 *per Annum*; conſequently the Alteration propoſed by this Report is of this pecuniary Value to the Public, conſidering it in no other Light.

† Ample Scope would ſtill remain for the Induſtry of private Editors, in preparing diſtinct Publications of particular Claſſes of Statutes, with an hiſtorical Commentary upon the Origin of the more celebrated Statutes, and a Detail of all the Adjudications, which have occurred, upon the Meaning or Effect of the different Clauſes in each ſeparate Statute.

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They have proceeded in framing their Plan have been, Firſt, to avoid the Suggeſtion of any Meaſure which might materially infringe the exiſting Rights or Claims of Individuals; and in the next Place, to lay down ſuch a Plan of Diſtribution, as ſhould begin by comprehending the primary Objects of Promulgation, and alſo be capable of receiving a further Extenſion to any indefinite Degree, which in future Times the Wiſdom of the State may propoſe or its Emergencies require.

The Public General Acts, as it has been already noticed, are at preſent diſtributed to the Members of each Houſe of Parliament, and ſome of the Great Officers of State. In the Details, even of this ſcanty Diſtribution, many Improvements might poſſibly be made; but upon this Subject none are ſuggeſted, leſt they ſhould be conſidered as trenching upon Matter of eſtabliſhed Privilege. It is to the new Sphere of Diſtribution that Your Committee are anxious to give the greateſt Latitude.

In ſelecting theſe Objects, They would firſt beg leave to ſupply ſome Omiſſions obviouſly apparent in the preſent Liſt: The Twelve Judges of England are at preſent perſonally furniſhed with the Statutes; but none are provided for the public Uſe of ſome of the principal Courts of Juſtice, in which they preſide, none for the Rolls, none for the Court of Common Pleas, none for the Civil Law Courts, none for the Courts of Juſtice or Judges of any Deſcription in Scotland: His Majeſty's Attorney and Solicitor General are alſo at preſent ſupplied; but not the Lord Advocate of Scotland, nor the Solicitor General of Scotland, nor any of the Military Departments or Revenue Boards in either Part of the United Kingdoms: Theſe are Omiſſions proper to be provided for: And it might not be inexpedient, that ſingle Copies ſhould alſo be depoſited in the Royal Library, the Britiſh Muſeum, the Libraries of each of the Four Inns of Court in London, the Advocates' Library in Edinburgh, and with each of the Engliſh and Scottiſh Univerſities, and in the Regiſter Office for Scotland. The Total of the Articles comprized in this new Claſs of Diſtribution, amounting to ſo inconſiderable

a Number

a Number, it is hoped that this Sort of Appropriation might be adopted without Difficulty *.

The principal Objects, and for which the greateſt Efforts ſhould be made, are the numerous Juriſdictions into which the whole Kingdom is ſub-divided; namely; the County Juriſdictions, and the leſſer Diſtricts, in which Juſtice is adminiſtered by the local Magiſtracy of Cities, Boroughs, and Towns Corporate. To this End therefore Your Committee beg Leave to propoſe, that to the Sheriff of each of the Eighty-five Counties in Great Britain ſhould be ſent a Copy of every Public Act, as ſoon as it has received the Royal Aſſent; which Copy ſhould be lodged and preſerved, for public Inſpection, in the Office of his Underſheriff, and paſſed under the Sheriff's cuſtomary Aſſignment to his Succeſſor. In like Manner the Clerks of the Peace, under each of the One hundred and Six Commiſſions of the Peace which iſſue for the general and ſubordinate Juriſdictions in Great Britain, ſhould receive Copies, to be depoſited in their reſpective Offices, and aſſigned to their Succeſſors, and to be employed for the Public Uſe at the Times of holding the ſeveral Seſſions, Great Seſſions, and Aſſizes. The Chief Magiſtrates or Head Officers of each City, Borough, and Town Corporate, &c. † might alſo be fur-

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* See APPENDIX, No. VII.

† A Doubt has occurred, how far the Words "BOROUGHS AND TOWNS CORPORATE," ſo frequently uſed in Acts of Parliament, when applied in the preſent Inſtance to Places in Scotland, ought to extend not only to Royal Burghs but alſo to Burghs of Regality Barony or Bailliary.—BOROUGHS in England and Wales are underſtood to ſignify Towns having Right of returning Members to Parliament.—ROYAL BURGHS in Scotland anſwer to the ſame Deſcription.—The real Queſtion therefore for Purpoſes of Policy like the preſent, is, whether Burghs of Regality Barony or Bailliary anſwer to the Engliſh Towns Corporate in reſpect of Magiſtracy? And it does not appear that they ſubſtantially reſemble each other in this Point, inaſmuch as the Magiſtrates of Engliſh Towns Corporate moſt uſually have a General Juriſdiction in Criminal Matters, as Conſervators or Juſtices of the Peace; whereas the Magiſtrates of theſe Burghs of Regality Barony and Bailliary, have very little more than a civil Juriſdiction, and that to a very ſmall Extent. See *Erſkine's Summary*, p. 41. and Stat. 20 Geo. II. c. 43. § 17. & § 26. And it is for the Criminal Juriſdiction, exerciſed by the local Magiſtrates, that an extended Promulgation of the Public Statutes is chiefly required.

niſhed with a Copy of each Public Act by the ſame Means, and for the ſame Uſes, and with the ſame Truſt for its Preſervation; and this Circulation would ſpread through the Country between Three and Four hundred Copies more, and produce a very general Notification of their Contents, although it might not be in exact Proportion to the Surface or Population of the Diſtricts to which they were communicated. With a View therefore to this poſſible Inequality, Your Committee would laſtly preſume to recommend, that the Surplus Number of Copies, remaining unappropriated after theſe particular Deſtinations, and which would be much the largeſt Portion of their increaſed Stock, ſhould be divided amongſt the RESIDENT ACTING JUSTICES OF THE PEACE for each of the Fifty-ſix Counties Ridings or Diviſions, and of the Seventeen inferior Juriſdictions, to which Commiſſions of the Peace are iſſued in England and Wales; and for each of the Thirty-two Counties (together with the ſingle Stewartry) to which Commiſſions are iſſued into Scotland. Under every One of theſe Commiſſions, from Ten to Five and Twenty or Thirty Copies might be diſtributed amongſt the Reſident Acting Juſtices,* who might receive them from the Cuſtos Rotulorum, or from the Clerk of the Peace, and divide them amongſt themſelves by their own Authority, according to any Mode which they ſhould conceive to be beſt adapted to the Advancement of Juſtice and the more effec-

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* DISTRIBUTION AMONGST THE RESIDENT ACTING JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.—The moſt deſirable Mode of diſtributing the Acts ſeems to be, that which provides a Supply for ALL the Juſtices INDIVIDUALLY, WHERE THEIR NUMBER IS SMALL; and provides it more ſparingly, WHERE THE NUMBER IS LARGE; there being in every great Number of Juſtices ONLY A CERTAIN PROPORTION which uſually tranſacts the Buſineſs of the Commiſſion:—In order therefore to economize the Stock of diſtributable Copies, it is propoſed, where the Number of Juſtices appears by the Returns not to exceed Ten, that as many Copies ſhall be allotted as there appear to be individual Juſtices; and afterwards to divide the Commiſſions into Claſſes, according to the Amount of the Number of Juſtices returned under each, allotting only a certain Proportion of Copies to each of theſe more numerous Claſſes: And in this View, it becomes leſs important if all the Returns ſhould not have been very minutely accurate, as probably they are not in ſome Inſtances.

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tual Execution of the Laws:* And undoubtedly Parliament would hereafter be diſpoſed at all Times to modify or extend this Diſtribution, in Compliance with any reaſonable Repreſentations which any Juriſdiction or Diſtrict might ſubmit to its Conſideration.

The other Parts of this Plan, which are next to be explained, relate to the PUBLIC LOCAL ACTS and the PRIVATE ACTS.

THE PUBLIC LOCAL ACTS, which are now printed in equal Number with the General Acts of a Public Nature, might, as Your Committee apprehend, be confined, not improperly, to an Impreſſion of Two hundred Copies, ſo far as the Expenſe of it ought to be borne by the Public, theſe Acts being in their Nature merely private and perſonal. Your Committee wiſh to repreſent, and to admit moſt diſtinctly, that this Reſtriction would ſo far as it went be a direct Reduction of the Degree of Promulgation which at preſent belongs to this Claſs of Statutes; but They are anxious alſo to have it obſerved, that this very Reduction is the great Source of their Means for compaſſing the more extenſive Plan of Diſtribution, which They have propoſed for the Public Acts: And They preſume moreover to hope, that the Mode in which this limited Impreſſion may be diſtributed will effectually anſwer every End, ſo far as public Utility is concerned; leaving the Parties immediately intereſted to provide themſelves, by private Purchaſe, with thoſe Acts in which their private Rights are reſpectively implicated.

Out of this limited Impreſſion, all the Public Bodies and Officers of State, who at preſent receive the Local Acts along with the other Statutes, may ſtill be ſupplied with theſe Acts, though with a leſſer Number of Copies; and to theſe it is even propoſed to add the Road Acts, which are not now included under the Deſcription of Local Acts, although plainly belonging to the

* See APPENDIX, No. VI.

ſame

ſame Claſs *. The Collection of Local Acts, thus completed, may be furniſhed for the Uſe of each Houſe of Parliament, and to every Department, and nearly to every Individual named in the preſent Liſt †; and even beyond this Liſt, to ſeveral other Departments and Individuals, to whom the Privilege has never yet been extended, although they are apparently entitled to an equal Accommodation, namely, the Court of the Maſter of the Rolls, and the Court of Common Pleas, and the Civil Law Courts, in England; and the Courts of Seſſion, Juſticiary, Exchequer, Admiralty, and Commiſſary, in Scotland; the Lords of Seſſion and Barons of the Exchequer, in their individual Capacities, the Lord Advocate, and the Solicitor General of Scotland; the Royal Library, and thoſe other Libraries and Repoſitories, in which it is already propoſed that the Public General Acts ſhould be lodged, may alſo receive their reſpective Shares; and for the Convenience of ſuch of His Majeſty's Subjects, whoſe Reſidence may be ſituated remotely from any of theſe Repoſitories, a Supply may ſtill be provided, even out of this limited Impreſſion, by lodging a Copy in the Office of every Clerk of the Peace under every Commiſſion of the Peace which iſſues into any Part of Great Britain ‡.

The Private Acts are very differently circumſtanced from all the Reſt, and require a diſtinct Conſideration. Their aggregate Bulk is very great; and they are at preſent never printed at the public Coſt. Such an Operation would be attended with a heavy Expenſe; and yet, comprizing as they do ſo large a Portion of legiſlative Arrangement, affecting ſome of the moſt valuable Intereſts of His Majeſty's Subjects, it ſeems to be an Object which ought not to be altogether overlooked, if any reaſonable Publicity can be given to the Regiſtration of theſe Parliamentary Conveyances.

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* At preſent 200 Copies of the Road Acts are printed for Sale, but not at the public Expenſe; nor are they delivered to any Perſon as a Matter of Right.

† See Appendix, No. I.

‡ See Appendix, No. VIII.

Upon

Upon an Average of the preſent Reign it appears, that the Private Acts amount in Bulk to nearly One Half of the whole Maſs of Statutes produced in each Seſſion of Parliament; and as the printing of theſe Acts, even according to the limited Scale propoſed for the Public Local Acts, would coſt to the Public many Hundred Pounds Annually, this Conſideration will probably be thought ſufficient of itſelf to exclude the Propoſal of ſuch a Meaſure.

Nevertheleſs, it ſeems not impoſſible to deviſe ſome other Plan, which may avoid this Burthen, and ſecure the Benefit of laying thoſe Acts open to public Inſpection. In the Year 1707, by a Reſolution of the Houſe it was ordered, that every Private Bill ſhould be printed before it was read: In 1722, this Order was revived and made a Standing Order of the Houſe*: And in Obedience to theſe Orders, from Two to Three hundred printed Copies of theſe Bills are now diſtributed, by the Perſons who ſolicit them, to the Members of both Houſes. The Expenſe of the Impreſſion being therefore already thrown upon the private Suitors, this Practice may be eaſily and not unreaſonably applied to procure a Collection of theſe Private Acts for public Uſe, if both Houſes of Parliament ſhould be of Opinion, that thoſe who at preſent are bound to print their Bills in the firſt Stages of Proceeding, might alſo be required to depoſit with ſome Officer of Parliament, Two hundred printed Copies of their reſpective Acts, examined like all others by the original Roll, and printed alſo by public Authority. In making any ſuch Arrangements, due Regard muſt be had to the eſtabliſhed Privileges and Intereſts of the Parliament Office on the one Hand, and to the Relief of Individuals from the Preſſure of any unreaſonable Burthen, on the other: And probably it might not be found inequitable on either Side, that the Individuals intereſted in each Act ſhould be charged with a proportionate Contribution, by ſome

* Com. Journ. XX. p. 161.

ſettled Fee upon each Examination, ſo as to indemnify the Parliament Office to the Annual Amount of the actual Average Profits of the Office Copies of this Claſs of Acts; and that in return for this Charge, the King's Printer's Copy of the Act ſhould (by ſuch a Clauſe as is frequently inſerted in Local Acts) be made judicially admiſſible in Evidence, a Benefit which they never before could obtain without Payment of the entire Fees of Office in each particular Inſtance. Should ſuch a Meaſure be deemed expedient, Your Committee would propoſe, that the Diſtribution of theſe Copies ſhould be made exactly in the ſame Order and Proportion as thoſe which have appeared the fitteſt for promulgating the Public Local Statutes.

Some general Points remain to be ſtated which are eſſentially connected with the Execution of this Plan and its Efficacy. PROMPTITUDE IN THE PRINTING of the Public Acts is of the utmoſt Importance; the Deſpatch with which your own Daily Orders of this Nature are always executed, is an exemplary Proof of the Celerity with which the enacted Laws might and ought to be publiſhed. REGULARITY IN THE CONVEYANCE of the ſame Acts to their different Places of Deſtination is not leſs important; and they may be tranſmitted, as Parliamentary Proceedings, directly from the Preſs to the Poſt Maſter General; * and the Appropriation of each Copy might be previouſly printed upon each Cover as a Security againſt the Riſk of Miſcarriage. The Public General Acts, the Public Local Acts, and the Private Acts, being henceforth divided into ſeparate VOLUMES, the Order of CHAPTERS in each Volume might

* The gratuitous Conveyance by the POST OFFICE is within the ſtrict Principle of ſending Parliamentary Proceedings, Stat. 4. Geo. III. c. 24. § 5. and it has long been the Practice of Government to diſtribute a great Number of all the moſt important Public Acts in this Mode. The Diſtribution of the total Acts of each Seſſion will be ſubdivided by the Number of Times at which the Royal Aſſent is given, which, upon an Average of the laſt Ten Years, is between Nine and Ten Times in each; and if this Subdiviſion ſhould not ſufficiently reduce the Bulk of each Lot of Acts, the whole Number may ſtill be diſtributed without Difficulty in the Courſe of a very few Days.

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alſo form a diſtinct numerical Series, correſponding (if it ſhould be thought proper) to a ſimilar Mode of numbering the Statute Rolls; and the Paging might be rejected as unneceſſary, where the Citation muſt ever be made by Reference to Chapter and Section. A Tranſcript from the Entry upon the long Calendar of each Seſſion would furniſh the correct TABLE OF CONTENTS for each Volume, and notify its Completion *. Your Committee finally beg leave to obſerve, that complete INDEXES to the Statutes are and ever have been wanting, although their practical Importance is moſt manifeſt †. The moſt perfect Series of Seſſional Indexes will in no reſpect ſupply this Deficiency. Nothing leſs than a GENERAL INDEX can be ſufficiently comprehenſive. And Your Committee notice this Defect with the leſs Scruple, and with the more Hope of its being remedied, by adverting to the Munificence with which this Houſe has provided elaborate Indexes to the Journals of its own ſeparate Proceedings, wherein are carefully noted the progreſſive Formations of each Law; although for the Laws themſelves, when finally enacted, no adequate Care has ever been taken to provide any ready or accurate Means of inveſtigating their Contents.

§ 5.

IN ſearching for ſuch PRECEDENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS as are applicable to the Purpoſe of carrying theſe Meaſures into Effect, it appears to Your Committee, that they conſiſt of Reſolutions, Standing Orders, Reports, Meſſages, Conferences, and Addreſſes.

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* See Report upon Temporary Laws, p. 5.

† Domeſday was publiſhed by Parliamentary Authority, but without any Index, Table of Contents, or Title; and no Index has yet been given to the Rolls of Parliament, which contain ſo many of our Public Statutes, although the Rolls were publiſhed 20 Years ago.

RESOLUTIONS or ORDERS have been deemed ſufficient, where the Matter in Queſtion was within the ſingle Controul of this Houſe; REPORTS have been required from Committees, where previous Information has been thought requiſite; MESSAGES and CONFERENCES have been adopted, where the Act or Concurrence of the other Houſe was wanted; and ADDRESSES of the Two Houſes have been employed, whenever it has become neceſſary to have their Meaſures ſanctioned or enforced by the Crown in the Exerciſe of its conſtitutional Prerogatives *.

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* THE LORDS' JOURNALS furniſh PRECEDENTS, of great Variety and Importance, as to the Modes of Proceeding for the Regulation of Parliamentary and Public Records.

Upon the Reſtoration:—The Firſt Day on which the Lords aſſembled, *viz.* 25th April 1660, they made an ORDER upon Henry Scobell, Eſq. to deliver up all Acts, Records, &c. together with the Parliament Office.

In the Reign of Queen Ann, a regular Plan ſeems to have been formed for methodizing and ſecuring all the public Records, by the Authority of the Houſe of Lords, with the Sanction of the Crown.—1703, 10 Dec. a COMMITTEE was appointed, with a Power to appoint a Sub-Committee.—1704, 30 March, a REPORT was made upon the Records in the Tower, and Lord Treaſurer Godolphin was ordered to lay the Report before the QUEEN, and move her Majeſty.—6 Nov. ORDER upon the Lord Treaſurer to deliver an Account in Writing of what had been done.—10 Nov. ACCOUNT delivered by the Lord Treaſurer, and referred to the former Committee.—31 Jan. ORDER that the Report ſhould be laid before the QUEEN.—1705, 15 Dec. a Second COMMITTEE was appointed.—7 Jan. REPORT on the Records in the Paper Office.—4 March, ADDRESS upon the State of Records in the Paper Office and Chapter Houſe.—7 Jan. a Third COMMITTEE.—1707, 8 April, REPORT on the Records in the Tower.—27 Jan. a Fourth COMMITTEE.—20 April REPORT at great Length on the Records in the Tower, Court of Wards and Queen's Bench: ORDER that the Lord Chancellor lay this Report before the QUEEN.—19 Dec. a Fifth COMMITTEE.—1710, 6 March, a Sixth COMMITTEE.—1711, 31 May, REPORT upon the Records of the Queen's Bench. ORDER Lord Treaſurer to lay the Report before the Queen, &c.—21 June, QUEEN'S ANSWER.

In the Reign of George the Firſt, this Meaſure was reſumed.—1718, 9 March, a COMMITTEE was appointed.—1719, 16 April, REPORT at very great Length and in very minute Detail of the State of all the public Records belonging to the Parliament Office, to the Court of Chancery, to the Court of Wards, to the Court of Requeſts, and to the Exchequer; with a general Account of all the Records in the Chapter Houſe and Tower.—17 April, Report read and approved, and an ADDRESS ordered to be preſented by the Lord Chancellor.—18 April, the KING'S ANSWER, and ORDER, that the Report, Addreſs, and Anſwer be printed in an Octavo Volume.—1725—Another COMMITTEE was appointed to view the Parliament Office and Chapter Houſe Records, &c.

And

The printing of Private Bills, before they are read in the Houſe of Commons, is a Matter of internal Regulation; and accordingly this was provided for, firſt, by a RESOLUTION in 1707, and afterwards by a STANDING ORDER IN 1722,* which is now revived with the reſt in every ſucceſſive Parliament. The Preſervation of the original Records of Parliament, being a Matter in which the Commons were concerned, but which had fallen under the more immediate Superintendence of the Houſe of Lords, this was proceeded upon in the Year 1661 by a MESSAGE †. After the Burning of the Cotton Library in 1732, when it became neceſſary to chooſe a fit Place for preſerving the public Records, the Houſe of Commons appointed a Committee to view their State, and to inquire and REPORT upon the Matter; and in conſequence of that Report, and of the Documents annexed to it, a very full and long ADDRESS was preſented by the Houſe of Commons ‡. The Publication of the Rolls of Parliament was reſolved in the Spring of 1767, and that of Domeſday in the Summer of the ſame Year; and upon each of theſe Occaſions, ADDRESSES were preſented by Order of the Commons, praying that the neceſſary Eſtimates might be prepared for theſe Purpoſes §.

And in the Beginning of the Reign of Geo. IId. 1728, 25 May, REPORT was made (with Reference to that of 1719.)—28 May, ADDRESS was ordered, and the Report to be laid before the King.

The Rolls of Parliament were ORDERED to be printed 9 March, 1767: And an ADDRESS, with the RESOLUTIONS, to be preſented by the Lords with White Staves, &c.—11 March, the KING'S ANSWER.

Theſe Precedents are the more fully ſtated, as the Lords' Journals have not at preſent any printed Indexes.

It may be worth remarking, that notwithſtanding ſo much has been done in the preſent Century by both Houſes of Parliament, with Regard to the Arrangement of the public Records of the Kingdom, much yet remains to be done: The printed Collections by RYMER are extremely imperfect; and the unpubliſhed Records are diſperſed in unconnected Parcels amongſt different Repoſitories.

* Com. Journ. 5 March 1722. Vol. XX. p. 161.

† Com. Journ. 11 Jan. 1661. Vol. VIII. p. 343.

‡ Com. Journ. 10 May 1732. Vol. XXI. p. 918.

§ Com. Journ. 2 March 1767. Vol. XXXI. p. 196. & ibid. 18 June 1767. ibid. p. 411.

The State of the public Records in the Rolls Chapel came under the Notice of the Houſe of Commons in 1772; a Committee was appointed, and in Conſequence of their Report, a ſhort ADDRESS was voted; and the Houſe ſpecially directed that a Copy of that Report, and of the Reſolutions of the Houſe upon it, ſhould be laid before His Majeſty together with the Addreſs *.

Upon Occaſions of public Importance, not connected indeed with the Regulation of Parliamentary Records, wherever both Houſes have been deſirous of teſtifying their Concurrence, MESSAGES and CONFERENCES have led them to agree in JOINT ADDRESSES; which have been ſometimes preſented in the Form of Reſolutions only †, ſometimes preſented by Committees of each Houſe ‡, and at other Times by both Houſes in a Body.

Upon this View of the Precedents, applicable to the ſeveral Meaſures which Your Committee have by this their Report preſumed to ſuggeſt as fit to be adopted, They humbly conceive, that the particular REQUISITES, § WITH WHICH EVERY BILL OUGHT

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* Com. Journ. 26 May 1772. Vol. XXXIII. p. 791.

† Com. Journ. 3 March 1761. Vol. XXVIII. p. 1094.

‡ Com. Journ. 29 March 1756. Vol. XXVII. p. 547.

§ REQUISITES.—1. The practical Importance of PUNCTUATION is already inſtanced in p. 9 of this Report:—It might even be convenient to lay aſide the Cuſtom of bringing in Bills with BLANKS, as the Senſe would thereby be more complete; and frequently much Time would be ſaved, which is now conſumed in going through the Forms of a Committee, for the mere Purpoſe of filling up the Blanks, before any Debate upon the Bill is had.—2. The numbering of the SECTIONS upon the Draft of every Bill would facilitate the Reference to its ſeveral Parts pending its Progreſs; and after each Bill had received the Royal Aſſent, the numbering the Sections upon the Roll would furniſh the Means of correct Citation; any Confuſion which might otherwiſe ariſe by the Inſertion or Addition of Amendments or Riders being obviated by deferring to number the Sections upon the Roll itſelf until after the paſſing of the Act.—3. The Addition of marginal ABSTRACTS to each Clauſe would furniſh the moſt ready Breviate for the Speaker in the firſt Inſtance; would afterwards render the Bill more eaſily underſtood for Debate; and ultimately afford the readieſt Means of rendering the Public acquainted with the Contents

OUGHT TO BE INTRODUCED INTO PARLIAMENT, ſuch as the numerical Diſtinction of its Sections, their marginal Abſtract, and their Punctuation; the Form of Title which ſhould be afterwards prefixed to Bills (eſpecially to thoſe of a temporary Nature) and the Number which ſhould be finally marked upon each Roll (all of which Requiſites would contribute ultimately to render the Syſtem of Promulgation more perfect) ſhould be ſettled by Reſolutions or Standing Orders adapted to thoſe Purpoſes: And that, inaſmuch as the future SELECTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE STATUTES are Points which equally regard the Privileges of both Houſes, if this Houſe ſhould come to any Reſolutions for proceeding in theſe Matters, the ſame ſhould be communicated to the Lords upon Conference; and in caſe the Houſe of Lords ſhould judge it expedient to agree to the Reſolutions of this Houſe, it might then be fitting that an Addreſs expreſſive of their concurrent Sentiments ſhould be preſented by a Committee of each Houſe to His Majeſty, the Exertion of the Royal Prerogative being eſſentially neceſſary towards giving the full Effect to any ſuch Meaſures.

Contents of each Act.—4. The Utility of INTITULING temporary Laws, in a Manner expreſſive of their preciſe Duration, may be exemplified by an Act of the laſt Parliament, viz. The Pawnbrokers Act, Stat. 36 Geo. III. c. 87: Its Title is general, and does not expreſs it to be for any limited Time; the Firſt Section enacts that it ſhall "commence from the End of the then preſent Seſſion," and laſt Three Years, &c. and the 31ſt Section enacts, "That this Act ſhall be in Force for Three Years," &c. which according to Stat. 33 Geo. III. c. 13. would otherwiſe cauſe it to "commence from the Day of paſſing, and not from the End of the Seſſion."—5. The COMMENCEMENT of the Operation of Statutes, eſpecially thoſe of a penal Nature, ought, perhaps, to be poſtponed till ſome ſhort Time after the paſſing of them, upon the Principle ſuggeſted by Lord *Coke*, 2 *Inſt.* 670.—6. DURATION. To ſome temporary Acts a Clauſe has been annexed, whereby the Act has ceaſed to operate ſubſtantially, after it is declared to be ſtill in Force for the Sake of ſupporting Proſecutions againſt thoſe who have violated it during the Term aſſigned for its Continuance. 29 Geo. III. c. 64. 33 Geo. III. c. 66. 34 Geo. III. c. 80. &c. &c.

The Rules for ſecuring theſe REQUISITES, and ſettling the proper Forms of Preamble Enactments and Style in each Statute, are what Lord Bacon calls the LEGES LEGUM, and they are ranked by him amongſt the elementary Principles of correct Legiſlation.

In

In ſupport of ſeveral of the Statements which Your Committee have thought it neceſſary to make upon this Occaſion, and for Illuſtration of the ſeveral Plans of Diſtribution which they have propoſed for the Public, the Local, and the Private Acts, They have ſet forth by way of APPENDIX TO THIS REPORT, the principal Documents which have come under Their Conſideration: And ſhould the Range of their Inquiries appear to have been large, and the Details into which They have entered ſomewhat minute, They would wiſh to have it always remembered, that the correct ſpeedy and general Promulgation of the Laws is eſſentially connected with the Dignity of the Legiſlature, the Efficacy of all Government, and the univerſal Principles of Juſtice.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX

CONTENTS

OF THE

APPENDIX.

I. Statutes; Liſt of their preſent Diſtribution, by the King's Printer, at His Majeſty's Expenſe - 37

II. Proclamations; the Writ, and the Liſt of their Diſtribution from the Crown Office - - - 39

III. Commiſſions of the Peace; Liſt of the Counties, and particular Cities, Boroughs, Towns, and Liberties, in Great Britain, to which they are iſſued - - - - - - - - - - - - - 41

IV. Cities, Boroughs, Towns Corporate, and Royal Burghs, in Great Britain; their Names and Numbers - - - - - - - - - - - 44

V. Juſtices of the Peace; the Number of Reſident Acting Magiſtrates under every Commiſſion of the Peace in Great Britain - - - - - 53

VI. Pariſhes and rateable Diſtricts; their reſpective Numbers in each County, &c. of Great Britain 57

VII. Propoſed Scheme of Diſtribution for the Public General Acts - - - - - - - - - - 62

VIII. Propoſed Scheme of Diſtribution for the Local and Private Acts - - - - - - - - - - 70

I. *Statutes.*

CONTENTS

OF THE

APPENDIX.

I. Statutes; List of their present Distribution, by the King's Printer, at His Majesty's Expence - 37

II. Proclamations; the Writ, and the List of their Distribution from the Crown Office - - - - 39

III. Commissions of the Peace; List of the Counties, and particular Cities, Boroughs, Towns, and Liberties, in Great Britain, to which they are issued - - - - - - - - - - 41

IV. Cities, Boroughs, Towns Corporate, and Royal Burghs, in Great Britain; their Names and Numbers - - - - - - - - - - 44

V. Justices of the Peace; the Number of Resident Acting Magistrates under every Commission of the Peace in Great Britain - - - - - - 53

VI. Parishes and taxable Districts; their respective Numbers in each County, &c. of Great Britain 57

VII. Proposed Scheme of Distribution for the Public General Acts - - - - - - - - - - 62

VIII. Proposed Scheme of Distribution for the Local and Private Acts - - - - - - - - - - 70

I. Statutes.

I.

Statutes.

THE following Sets of STATUTES are furniſhed at His MAJESTY's Expenſe by

HIS MAJESTY's PRINTER.

DELIVERY.	Sets ſtitched.	Sets bound.	SUB-DIVISION.	
Privy Council - - -	50 (a)	60	(a) PRIVY COUNCIL.	
			Sets ſtitched.	
			For the Office, and ſuch Privy Counſellors as may demand them; and for occaſional Tranſmiſſion to the Iſlands of Jerſey and Guernſey, &c. by Order of Council - - - -	50.
			Sets bound.	
Lord Chancellor, and his Officers - - -	13	1	For the Princes of the Blood, the great Officers of State, and other Privy Counſellors	44.
			The Four Clerks - - -	4.
			The Council Office - -	2.
				(60.)
			(b) THE HOUSE OF PEERS.	
			Sets ſtitched.	
			For ſuch Peers as may demand them	300.
			Sets bound.	
			For the Houſe - - - -	1
			The Lord Chancellor or Speaker	1
			The Clerk of the Parliaments	6
			The Clerk Aſſiſtant	1
			The Reading Clerk - -	1
			The Clerk of the Journals -	2
			The Copying Clerk - -	1
			The Trunk Bearer - -	1
			The Gent. Uſher Black Rod	1
			The Yeoman Uſher - -	1
			The Houſekeeper - - -	1
			The Doorkeepers & Firelighter	8
			The Board of Works - -	3
			The Judge Advocate - -	1
			The Judge of the Admiralty	1
			The King's Advocate - -	1
				31.
Houſe of Peers - -	300 (b)	31		
The Speaker - - -	—	1		
			(c) THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.	
			Sets ſtitched.	
			For ſuch Members as demand them, and the Clerks, &c. - - -	570.
			Sets bound.	
Houſe of Commons - -	570 (c)	8	The Table of the Houſe, and the Clerks, &c. - - - -	8.
			(d) THE TREASURY.	
			Sets bound.	
			The Secretaries - - -	2
			The Chief Clerks - - -	3
			Revenue Room - - -	1
			Board Room - - -	1
			Counſel - - - -	1
			Solicitor - - - -	1
				9.
The Treaſury - -	1 (d)	9		

STATUTES—*continued.*

DELIVERY.	Sets ſtitched.	Sets bound.	SUB-DIVISION.
A. Bp. of Canterbury, and his Officers - - -	12		
Secretaries of State - -	6 (e)	6	(e) THE SECRETARIES OF STATE. *Sets ſtitched and bound.* The Home Secretary, and Two Under Secretaries - - - 3 } 6. The Foreign Secretary, &c. - 3 }
The Judges - -	24	12	
Maſter of the Rolls - -	—	1	
The King's Proctor -	—	1	
King's Bench (Cuſtos Brevium)	—	1	
Attorney General - -	2	1	
Solicitor General - -	2	1	
Hanaper Office - -	6 (f)	3	(f) THE HANAPER OFFICE. *Sets ſtitched.* The Deputy Clerk - - - 6. *Sets bound.* Hanaper Office - - - 1 } Clerk of the Hanaper - - - 1 } 3. Commiſſioners for auditing Public Accounts - - - 1 }
Crown Office in Chancery -	2 (g)	2	(g) THE CROWN OFFICE IN CHANCERY. *Sets ſtitched.* Deputy Clerk Crown - - 1 } 2. Firſt Clerk - - - - 1 } *Sets bound.* Clerk of the Crown - - 1 } 2. The Office - - - 1 }
	988	138 = 1,126. Total.	

The Sub-Diviſion is ſtated here for the Purpoſe of ſhewing to what Perſons and Offices the Delivery really extends, in order that no further Proviſion for the ſame Object might be made in any additional Diſtribution.

For the ſame Reaſon, it ought to be remarked in this Place, that beſides the above Diſtribution by the King's Printer, the Statutes of each Seſſion are alſo provided for the Court of Chancery and Exchequer by their reſpective Uſhers, and afterwards paid for by the Public in other mixed Accounts: The Uſher of the Court of Exchequer ſupplies not only the Court itſelf, but alſo many of its ſubordinate Departments, and their Officers;

		VIZ.	
The Court of Exchequer - - - -	1	The Clerk of the Eſtreats - - -	1
The Chancellor of the Exchequer - - -	1	The Deputy Chamberlains - - -	1
The Barons - - - - -	4	The Pipe Office - - - - -	1
The Curſitor Baron - - - -	1	The Comptroller of the Pipe - - -	1
The King's Deputy Rem^{r} - - -	1	Principal Auditor of the Land Revenue -	5
D^{o} Secondary - - - -	1	The other Auditor - - - -	1
D^{o} Office - - - - -	1	The Auditor of Wales - - -	1
The Lord Treaſurer's Rem^{r} - - -	1	The Firſt Fruits Office - - -	1
The Maſter of the Office of Pleas - -	1	The Chief Uſher - - - -	1
	12		13

Total Bound Sets, 25

At the ſame Time, it is not to be preſumed, that any much greater Number than the original Number of 1,126 is iſſued to the Public by any ſuch Means; for, upon the Minutes of the Committee, it appears, that for many Years paſt, not more than 16 complete Sets of each Seſſional Collection have been purchaſed annually from the King's Printer; and thoſe only by ſome of the Public Departments in England and Scotland.

II.

Proclamations.

THE Tenor of the WRIT is as follows ___ ___ GEORGE THE THIRD, by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France, and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth ___ To the _____ Greeting. We command you ___ that presently upon Sight hereof, in every Place within _____ as well within Liberties as without, where you ___ shall see most expedient on Our Part, you ____ cause publicly and solemnly to be proclaimed a certain Proclamation by Us made and conceived, with the Advice of Our Council, which We send to you ___ in certain Schedules to this Our Writ annexed, Commanding also, that immediately after Proclamation so as aforesaid by you ____ made, all and singular such Schedules in separate, distinct, and public Places, that it may more plainly appear to Our Subjects and Liege People, you _____ cause likewise to be affixed on Boards and Posts ___ And this by no Means you ____ omit. Witness Ourself at Westminster the _____ Day of _____ in the _____ Year of Our Reign. YORKE.

A Writ of Proclamation to be made.

YORKE.

Of the Proclamations themselves, 14 Copies are transmitted to the Sheriff of each County in England.

And in Scotland, to the Sheriff of each County, and to the Steward of the Stewartries of Kirkcudbright and Annandale, Twenty-four Copies each, to the Steward of the Houshold, the Warden of the Cinque Ports, and Fourteen Copies to the Bishop of Ely.

PROCLAMATIONS—*continued.*

Five Copies to each of the Twenty-four Cities and Towns following;

City of Chester.
Town of Ipswich.
Colchester.
City of Rochester.
Hereford.
Oxford.
New Sarum.
Chichester.
Winchester.
Town of Cambridge.
City of Litchfield.
Town of Newcastle upon Tyne.
Kingston upon Hull.
Southampton.
Poole.
City of Worcester.
Exeter.
Canterbury.
Town of Nottingham.
City of Bristol.
Coventry.
Gloucester.
Lincoln.
Norwich.

Twenty-four Copies each to the Cities of

London
and
York.

III.

Commiſſions of the Peace.

SINCE the Acceſſion of His preſent Majeſty, Commiſſions of Peace have iſſued for the Counties and Places following:

COUNTIES.

ENGLAND.

Bedford.
Berks.
Bucks.
Cambridge.
Cheſter.
Cornwall.
Cumberland.
Derby.
Devon.
Dorſet.
Durham.
Eſſex.
Glouceſter.
Hereford.
Hertford.
Huntingdon.
Kent.
Leiceſter.
Lincoln, Holland Diviſion.
D° - - Keſteven Diviſion.
D° - - Lindſey Diviſion.
Middleſex.
Monmouth.
Norfolk.
Northampton.
Northumberland.
Nottingham.
Oxford.
Rutland.
Salop.
Somerſet.
Southampton.
Stafford.
Suffolk.
Surry.
Suſſex.
Warwick.
Weſtmorland.
Wilts.
Worceſter.
Eaſt Riding of York.
North Riding of York.
Weſt Riding of York.

N. B. The Commiſſion for the County of Lancaſter iſſues from the Duchy Office.

WALES.

Commissions of the Peace—COUNTIES, *continued.*

WALES.

Angleſea.	Flint.
Brecon.	Glamorgan.
Cardigan.	Merioneth.
Carmarthen.	Montgomery.
Carnarvon.	Pembroke.
Denbigh.	Radnor.

SCOTLAND.

Aberdeen.	Kincardine.
Ayr.	Kinroſs.
Argyll.	Kirkcudbright, Stewartry.
Banff.	Lanark.
Berwick.	Linlithgow.
Bute.	Nairn.
Caithneſs.	Orkney and Zetland.
Clackmannan.	Peebles.
Cromarty.	Perth.
Dumbarton.	Renfrew.
Dumfries.	Roſs.
Edinburgh.	Roxburgh.
Elgin.	Selkirk.
Forfar.	Stirling.
Fife.	Sutherland.
Haddington.	Wigtoun.
Inverneſs.	

CITIES.

Commissions of the Peace—*continued.*

CITIES, BOROUGHS, TOWNS, AND LIBERTIES.

St. Alban's, Borough.
St. Alban's, Liberty.
Bedford Town.
Buckingham Town.
Cambridge Town.
The Liberty of Cawood, Wistow, and Otley, in the County of York.
The Isle of Ely.
Town, and County of the Town of, Haverford West.
Oxford, City.
Peterborough, Liberty.
Liberty of St. Peter of York.
The Liberty of the Archbishop of York; to wit, Ripon, Sutton under Whitstonecliffe, Kilburne, and Marton, in the County of York.
The Liberty of Southwell and Scrooby, in the County of Notts.
Sudbury, Borough.
Taunton, Borough.
Tower of London, Liberty of.
Westminster, City and Liberty of.

TOTALS.

44	Counties, &c. in England.
12	- - - Wales.
33	- - - Scotland.
17	Inferior Jurisdictions.
106	

IV.

Cities, Boroughs, Towns Corporate, and Royal Burghs, in Great Britain.

ENGLAND.

CITIES, BOROUGHS, AND TOWNS CORPORATE.

I. BEDFORDSHIRE - - - 1.
Bedford.

II. BERKSHIRE - - - 7.
Reading,
Abingdon,
Windsor,
Wallingford,
Maidenhead,
Newbury,
Wokingham.

III. BUCKINGHAMSHIRE - - 6.
Buckingham,
Wycomb,
Aylesbury,
Marlow,
Wendover,
Agmondesham.

IV. CAMBRIDGESHIRE - - 3.
Cambridge,
Wisbech,
Ely.

V. CHESHIRE - - - - 3.
Chester,
Macclesfield,
Congleton.

VI. CORNWALL - - - - 24.
Launceston,
Liskeard,
Leftwithiel,
Truro,
Bodmin,
Helston,
Saltash,
East Lode,
West Lode,
Grampound,
Camelford,
Penryn,
Tregony,
Boffiney,
St. Ives,
Fowey,
St. Germains,
Mitchell,
Newport,
St. Mawes,
Callington,
Penzance,
Marazion,
Falmouth.

VII. CUMBERLAND - - - 2.
Carliſle,
Cockermouth.

VIII. DERBYSHIRE

Cities, Boroughs, and Towns Corporate——ENGLAND, *continued.*

VIII. DERBYSHIRE - - - 2.
Derby,
Chesterfield,

IX. DEVONSHIRE - - - 16.
Ashburton,
Tiverton,
Dartmouth,
Okehampton,
Honiton,
Plymouth,
Beeralston,
Plympton,
Totnes,
Barnstaple,
Tavistock,
Exeter,
Biddeford,
Bradninch,
South Molton,
Torrington.

X. DORSETSHIRE - - - 10.
Dorchester,
Lyme,
Weymouth,
Melcomb,
Bridport,
Shaftesbury,
Wareham,
Corfe Castle,
Poole,
Blandford.

XI. DURHAM - - - 4.
Durham,
Hartlepoole,
Sunderland,
Stockton.

XII. ERROR or YORKSHIRE - 25.
York.
East Riding - - - 2.
Beverly,
Hedon.
West Riding - - 7.
Knaresborough,
Pontefract,
Ripon,
Boroughbridge,
Aldborough,
Leeds,
Doncaster.
North Riding - - 5.
Scarborough,
Richmond,
Malton,
Thirsk,
Northallerton.

XIII. ESSEX - - - - - 6.
Colchester,
Maldon,
Harwich,
Saffron Walden,
Havering atte Bower,
Brightlingsea.

XIV. GLOUCESTERSHIRE - 3.
Tewkesbury,
Cirencester,
Gloucester.

XV. HEREFORDSHIRE - - 3.
Hereford,
Leominster,
Weobley.

Cities, Boroughs, and Towns Corporate——ENGLAND, *continued.*

XVI. HERTFORDSHIRE - - 2.
Hertford,
St. Albans.

XVII. HUNTINGDONSHIRE - 1.
Huntingdon.

XVIII. KENT - - - - - 14.
Rocheſter,
Queenborough,
Maidſtone,
Canterbury,
Sandwich,
Dover,
New Romney,
Graveſend,
Feverſham,
Tenterden,
Deal,
Folkſtone,
Hythe,
Fordwich.

XIX. LANCASHIRE - - - 6.
Lancaſter,
Preſton,
Liverpool,
Wigan,
Clitheroe,
Newton.

XX. LEICESTERSHIRE - - 1.
Leiceſter.

XXI. LINCOLNSHIRE - - 6.
Lincoln.
Keſteven - - - - 2.
Stamford,
Grantham.
Lindſey - - - - - 2.
Great Grimſby,
Louth.
Holland - - - - 1.
Boſton.

XXII. MIDDLESEX - - - 2.
Weſtminſter,
London.

XXIII. MONMOUTHSHIRE - 3.
Monmouth,
Newport,
Uſk.

XXIV. NORFOLK - - - 5.
Lynn,
Yarmouth,
Thetford,
Caſtle Riſing,
Norwich.

XXV. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE 5.
Peterborough,
Northampton,
Brackley,
Higham Ferrers,
Daventry.

XXVI. NORTH-

Cities, Boroughs, and Towns Corporate——ENGLAND, *continued.*

XXVI. NORTHUMBERLAND - 3.
Morpeth,
Newcaſtle upon Tyne,
Alnwick.

XXVII. NOTTINGHAMSHIRE 3.
Eaſt Retford,
Newark,
Nottingham.

XXVIII. OXFORDSHIRE - - 6.
Oxford,
Woodſtock,
Banbury,
Henley,
Chipping Norton,
Burford.

XXIX. RUTLANDSHIRE - 0.
None.

XXX. SHROPSHIRE - - 6.
Shrewſbury,
Ludlow,
Bridgnorth,
Wenlock,
Biſhop's Caſtle,
Oſweſtry.

XXXI. SOMERSETSHIRE - 10.
Taunton,
Milborne Port,
Wells,
Bridgwater,
Bath,
Minehead,
Briſtol,
Axbridge,
Glaſton,
Langport Eaſtwood.

XXXII. SOUTHAMPTON or HANTS - - 12.
Wincheſter,
Portſmouth,
Newport,
Yarmouth,
Newton,
Lymington,
Chriſt Church,
Andover,
Whitchurch,
Peterſfield,
Stockbridge,
Southampton.

XXXIII. STAFFORDSHIRE - 5.
Stafford,
Tamworth,
Newcaſtle,
Lichfield,
Walſall.

XXXIV. SUFFOLK - - - 8.
Ipſwich,
Dunwich,
Orford,
Aldeburgh,
Sudbury,
Eye,
Bury,
Southwold.

XXXV. SURREY

Cities, Boroughs, and Town Corporate——ENGLAND, *continued.*

XXXV. SURREY - - - 7.
Gatton,
Haſlemere,
Blechingly,
Reigate,
Guildford,
Southwark,
Kingſton upon Thames.

XXXVI. SUSSEX - - - 13.
Horſham,
Brumber,
Shoreham,
Midhurſt,
Grinſtead,
Steyning,
Arundel,
Lewes,
Chicheſter,
Haſtings,
Rye,
Seaford,
Winchelſea.

XXXVII. WARWICKSHIRE - 7.
Warwick,
Coventry,
Stratford upon Avon.
Alceſter,
Henley in Arden,
Solyhull,
Sutton Coldfield.

XXXVIII. WESTMORELAND - 2.
Appleby,
Kendal.

XXXIX. WORCESTERSHIRE - 5.
Eveſham,
Droitwich,
Bewdley,
Worceſter,
Kidderminſter.

XL. WILTSHIRE - - 16.
New Sarum,
Devizes,
Marlborough,
Chippenham,
Calne,
Malmſbury,
Cricklade,
Hindon,
Old Sarum,
Heyteſbury,
Weſtbury,
Wootton Baſſet,
Ludgerſhall,
Wilton,
Downton,
Great Bedwin.

BERWICK UPON TWEED 1.

Total ENGLAND - - - 254.

WALES.

WALES.

CITIES, BOROUGHS, AND TOWNS CORPORATE.

I. Carmarthenſhire - - 5.
Carmarthen,
Kidwelly,
Langharne,
Llandovery,
St. Clear's,

II. Pembrokeshire - - 5.
Pembroke,
Haverford Weſt,
St. David's,
Tenby,
Wiſton.

IH. Carnarvonshire - - 6.
Carnarvon,
Bangor,
Conway,
Crickieth,
Nevin,
Pwllhely.

IV. Montgomeryshire - 3.
Montgomery,
Pool,
Llanfyllin.

V. Merionethshire - - 0.
None.

VI. Flintshire - - - 5.
Flint,
Overton,
Rhydlan,
Caerwys,
Caergurley.

VII. Denbighshire - - 3.
Denbigh,
Ruthin,
Holt.

VIII. Angleſea - - - - 2.
Beaumaris,
Newborough.

IX. Brecknockshire - - 2.
Brecon,
Builth.

X. Cardiganshire - - 4.
Cardigan,
Aberyſtwith,
Lampeterpontſtephen,
Atpar.

XI. Radnorshire - - 6
New Radnor
Preſteign,
Knighton,
Knucklaſs,
Kevenleece,
Rhayader.

Cities, Boroughs, and Towns Corporate——WALES, *continued.*

XII. GLAMORGANSHIRE - 7.
Cardiff,
Cowbridge,
Swanſea,
Llantriſſant,
Aberavon,
Kenfig,
Lwghor.

Total WALES - - - 48

SCOTLAND.

CITIES, AND ROYAL BURGHS.

I. ABERDEENSHIRE - - 3.
Aberdeen,
Kintore,
Inverury.

II. AYRSHIRE - - - - 2.
Ayr,
Irvine.

III. ARGYLLSHIRE - - 2.
Inverary,
Campbeltown.

IV. BERWICKSHIRE - - 1.
Lauder.

V. BANFFSHIRE - - - 2.
Banff,
Cullen.

VI. BUTE - - - - - - 1.
Rothſay.

VII. CAITHNESS - - - - 1.
Wick.

VIII. CROMARTYSHIRE - - 0.
None.

IX. CLACKMANNANSHIRE - 0.
None.

X. DUMBARTONSHIRE - - 1.
Dumbarton.

XI. DUMFRIESSHIRE - - - 4.
Dumfries,
Annan,
Lochmaben,
Sanquhar.

XII. EDINBURGHSHIRE - - 1.
Edinburgh,

XIII. ELGINSHIRE. - - - 2.
Elgin,
Forres.

XIV. FIFESHIRE

Cities, and Royal Burghs——SCOTLAND, *continued.*

XIV. FIFESHIRE - - - - 13.
Cupar,
St. Andrews,
Anſtruther E. and W.
Pittenweem,
Crail,
Kilrenny,
Dyſart,
Kirkaldy,
Bruntiſland,
Kinghorn,
Inverkeithing,
Dumferline.

XV. FORFARSHIRE - - - - 5.
Arbroath,
Montroſe,
Brechin,
Dundee,
Forfar.

XVI. HADDINGTONSHIRE
or
EAST LOTHIAN - - 3.
Haddington,
North Berwick,
Dunbar.

XVII. INVERNESSHIRE - 1.
Inverneſs.

XVIII. KINROSSHIRE - - 0.
None.

XIX. KIRKCUDBRIGHT
STEWARTRY - - 2.
New Galloway,
Kirkcudbright.

XX. KINCARDINESHIRE - 1.
Inverbervie.

XXI. LANARKSHIRE - - 3.
Glaſgow,
Rutherglen,
Lanark.

XXII. LLINLITHGOWSHIRE 2.
Llinlithgow,
Queensferry.

XXIII. NAIRNSHIRE - - 1.
Nairn.

XXIV. ORKNEY & ZETLAND 1.
Kirkwall.

XXV. PEEBLESSHIRE - - 1.
Peebles.

XXVI. PERTHSHIRE - - 2.
Perth.
Culroſs.

XXVII. RENFREWSHIRE - 1.
Renfrew.

XXVIII. Rox-

Cities, and Royal Burghs.——SCOTLAND, *continued.*

XXVIII. Roxburghshire - 1. Jedburgh.	XXXI. Stirlingshire - 1. Stirling.
XXIX. Rosshire - - - 3. Tain, Dingwall, Fortrose.	XXXII. Sutherland - - - 1. Dornoch.
XXX. Selkirkshire - - 1. Selkirk.	XXXIII. Wigtounshire - 3. Wigtoun, Whitehorn, Stranraer.

Total Scotland - - - 66

TOTALS.

254	England
48	Wales
66	Scotland
368	

V. The

V.

The Number of Reſident Acting Juſtices under every Commiſſion of the Peace in Great Britain.

IN this Statement are purpoſely omitted all Peers of Parliament, Privy Counſellors, and Perſons deſcribed by their Office as Chief Magiſtrate of any City, Borough, or Town Corporate, &c.; a diſtinct Diſtribution being made for ſuch Perſons under other Claſſes.

	Counties and Places for which Commiſſions iſſue.	Juſtices.
I.	Bedfordſhire	17
II.	Town of Bedford	2
III.	Berkſhire	47
IV.	Buckinghamſhire	67
V.	Town of Buckingham	2
VI.	Cambridgeſhire	24
VII.	Town of Cambridge	5
VIII.	Iſle of Ely	9
IX.	Cheſhire	41
X.	Cornwall	62
XI.	Cumberland	40
XII.	Derbyſhire	23
XIII.	Devonſhire	72
XIV.	Dorſetſhire	46
XV.	Durham	50
XVI.	Ebor or Yorkſhire, Eaſt Riding	16
XVII.	——— Weſt Riding	34
XVIII.	——— North Riding	64
XIX.	Liberty of Cawood, Wiſtow, and Otley	5
XX.	Liberty of St. Peter	10
XXI.	Liberty of the Archbiſhop of York; to wit, Ripon, Sutton under Whitſtonecliff, Kilburne, and Marton	4

Reſident Acting Juſtices, under every Commiſſion of the Peace, *continued.*

	Counties and Places for which Commiſſions iſſue.	Juſtices.
XXII.	Eſſex - - - -	110
XXIII.	Glouceſterſhire - - - -	72
XXIV.	Hereford ſhire - - - -	56
XXV.	Hertfordſhire - - - -	54
XXVI.	Liberty of St. Alban - - -	22
XXVII.	Borough of St. Alban - - -	3
XXVIII.	Huntingdonſhire - - -	29
XXIX.	Kent - - - -	61
XXX.	Lancaſhire - - - -	66
XXXI.	Leiceſterſhire - - - -	38
XXXII.	Lincolnſhire, Keſteven - - -	21
XXXIII.	——— Lindſey - - -	39
XXXIV.	——— Holland - - -	5
XXXV.	Middleſex - - - -	158
XXXVI.	Weſtminſter City - - -	42
XXXVII.	Liberty of the Tower of London - -	31
XXXVIII.	Monmouthſhire - - -	27
XXXIX.	Norfolk - - - -	78
XL.	Northamptonſhire - - -	32
XLI.	Liberty of Peterborough - -	7
XLII.	Northumberland - - -	24
XLIII.	Nottinghamſhire - - -	25
XLIV.	Liberty of Southwell and Scrooby - -	9
XLV.	Oxfordſhire - - -	30
XLVI.	Oxford City - - - -	9
XLVII.	Rutlandſhire - - -	12
XLVIII.	Shropſhire - - - -	55
XLIX.	Somerſetſhire - - - -	97
L.	Borough of Taunton - - -	5
LI.	Southampton or Hants - - -	70
LII.	Staffordſhire - - - -	50
LIII.	Suffolk - - - -	64

Reſident Acting Juſtices, under every Commiſſion of the Peace, *continued.*

	Counties and Places for which Commiſſions iſſue.	Juſtices.
LIV.	Borough of Sudbury - - -	2
LV.	Surrey - - - - -	97
LVI.	Suſſex - - - - -	52
LVII.	Warwickſhire - - - -	34
LVIII.	Weſtmorland - - - -	16
LIX.	Worceſterſhire - - - -	58
LX.	Wiltſhire - - - - -	51
	Total ENGLAND - -	2,351
	WALES.	
I.	Carmarthenſhire - - -	38
II.	Pembrokeſhire - - -	46
III.	Town and County of the Town of Haverford Weſt - - - -	5
IV.	Carnarvonſhire - - -	16
V.	Montgomeryſhire - - -	20
VI.	Merionethſhire - - -	7
VII.	Flintſhire - - - -	20
VIII.	Denbighſhire - - -	33
IX.	Angleſea - - - -	11
X.	Brecknockſhire - - -	28
XI.	Cardiganſhire - - -	19
XII.	Radnorſhire - - -	19
XIII.	Glamorganſhire - - -	43
	Total WALES - -	305
	SCOTLAND.	
I.	Aberdeenſhire - - -	146
II.	Ayrſhire - - - -	105
III.	Argyllſhire - - - -	79
IV.	Berwickſhire - - - -	47
V.	Banffſhire - - - -	84
VI.	Bute - - - - -	8
VII.	Caithneſs - - - -	8

VIII. Cromartyſhire

Resident Acting Justices, under every Commission of the Peace, *continued*.

	Counties and Places for which Commissions issue.	Justices.
VIII.	Cromartyshire - - - -	4
IX.	Clackmannanshire - - -	4
X.	Dumbartonshire - - -	31
XI.	Dumfriesshire - - -	126
XII.	Edinburghshire or Mid-Lothian - -	49
XIII.	Elginshire - - - -	35
XIV.	Fifeshire - - - -	104
XV.	Forfarshire - - -	51
XVI.	Haddingtonshire or East Lothian - -	37
XVII.	Invernesshire - - -	103
XVIII.	Kinrossshire - - -	17
XIX.	Kirkcudbright, Stewartry - - -	20
XX.	Kincardineshire - - -	20
XXI.	Lanarkshire - - - -	63
XXII.	Llinlithgowshire - - -	6
XXIII.	Nairnshire - - -	8
XXIV.	Orkney and Zetland - -	3
XXV.	Peeblesshire - - -	15
XXVI.	Perthshire - - - -	57
XXVII.	Renfrewshire - - - -	29
XXVIII.	Roxburghshire - - -	43
XXIX.	Rossshire - - - -	67
XXX.	Selkirkshire - - - -	8
XXXI.	Stirlingshire - - - -	45
XXXII.	Sutherland - - - -	28
XXXIII.	Wigtownshire - - -	13
	Total Scotland -	1,463

TOTALS.

2,351	England.
305	Wales.
1,463	Scotland.
4,119	

VI. *Parishes*

VI.

Pariſhes and Rateable Diſtricts in Great Britain.

I.

ENGLAND.

THE Number of Pariſhes, in each County of England and Wales, is taken from Camden's Britannia, Gough's Edit. 1789. And the Number of Diſtricts rateable to the Poor, is taken from the Returns made to the Houſe of Commons in 1787.

	COUNTIES.	Pariſhes.	Diſtricts.
I.	Bedfordſhire	116	132
II.	Berkſhire	140	194
III.	Buckinghamſhire	185	226
IV.	Cambridgeſhire	163	175
V.	Cheſhire	68	494
VI.	Cornwall	161	215
VII.	Cumberland	58	194
VIII.	Derbyſhire	106	316
IX.	Devonſhire	394	474
X.	Dorſetſhire	248	286
XI.	Durham	80	286
XII.	Eſſex	415	411
XIII.	Glouceſterſhire	280	385
XIV.	Hereford ſhire	176	256
XV.	Hertfordſhire	120	143
XVI.	Huntingdonſhire	78	104
XVII.	Kent	398	410

Parishes and Rateable Districts.——ENGLAND *continued.*

	COUNTIES.	Parishes.	Districts.
XVIII.	Lancashire - - -	36	436
XIX.	Leicestershire - - -	200	333
XX.	Lincolnshire - - -	630	704
XXI.	Middlesex - - -	221	209
XXII.	Monmouthshire - -	127	151
XXIII.	Norfolk - - -	660	695
XXIV.	Northamptonshire - - -	326	335
XXV.	Northumberland - - -	460	535
XXVI.	Nottinghamshire - - -	168	268
XXVII.	Oxfordshire - - -	280	276
XXVIII.	Rutlandshire - - -	48	53
XXIX.	Shropshire - - - -	170	256
XXX.	Somersetshire - - - -	385	493
XXXI.	Southampton - - - -	253	329
XXXII.	Staffordshire - - -	130	254
XXXIII.	Suffolk - - - -	575	512
XXXIV.	Surrey - - - -	140	151
XXXV.	Suffex - - - -	312	321
XXXVI.	Warwickshire - - -	158	249
XXXVII.	Westmorland - - -	26	112
XXXVIII.	Wiltshire - - -	304	338
XXXIX.	Worcestershire - - -	152	229
XL.	Yorkshire - - -	563	1,602
	Total for ENGLAND -	9,510	13,536

II. WALES.

Parishes and Rateable Districts.——WALES.

II.

WALES.

	COUNTIES.	Parishes.	Districts.
I.	Anglesea - - -	74	72
II.	Brecknockshire - - -	61	104
III.	Cardiganshire - - -	64	108
IV.	Carmarthenshire - - -	87	94
V.	Carnarvonshire - - -	63	73
VI.	Denbighshire - - -	57	84
VII.	Flintshire - - -	28	36
VIII.	Glamorganshire - - -	118	178
IX.	Merionethshire - - -	37	37
X.	Montgomeryshire - - -	47	70
XI.	Pembrokeshire- - - -	145	145
XII.	Radnorshire - - -	52	62
	Total for Wales -	843	1,063

III. SCOTLAND.

Parishes in Great Britain.

III.

SCOTLAND.

The following Enumeration of Parishes in Scotland was furnished by The Collector of the Funds for Ministers Widows, &c.

	COUNTIES.	Parishes.
I.	Aberdeenshire	84
II.	Ayrshire	46
III.	Argyllshire	37
IV.	Banffshire	24
V.	Berwickshire	31
VI.	Bute	5
VII.	Caithness	10
VIII.	Clackmannanshire	4
IX.	Cromartyshire	3
X.	Dumbartonshire	12
XI.	Dumfriesshire	40
XII.	Edinburghshire	40
XIII.	Elginshire	19
XIV.	Forfarshire	59
XV.	Fifeshire	61
XVI.	Haddingtonshire	24
XVII.	Invernesshire	28
XVIII.	Kincardineshire	18
XIX.	Kinrossshire	5
XX.	Kirkcudbright (Stewartry)	28
XXI.	Lanarkshire	4
XXII.	Linlithgowshire	13
XXIII.	Nairnshire	4
XXIV.	Orkney and Zetland	62
XXV.	Peeblesshire	

Parishes.——SCOTLAND *continued.*

	COUNTIES.	Parishes.
XXV.	Peeblesshire - - -	16
XXVI.	Perthshire - - - -	75
XXVII.	Renfrewshire - - - -	18
XXVIII.	Rossshire - - - -	32
XXIX.	Roxburghshire - - - -	34
XXX.	Selkirkshire - - -	4
XXXI.	Stirlingshire - - -	21
XXXII.	Sutherland - - -	13
XXXIII.	Wigtounshire - - -	17
	Total for Scotland -	896

TOTALS.

	Parishes.	Districts.
I. England - -	9,510	13,536
II. Wales - -	843	1,063
III. Scotland - -	896	
	10,353	14,599

VII.

Proposed Scheme for the Distribution of the Public General Acts.

	Copies.	
According to the present LIST, enumerated in N° I. of this Appendix, amounting to - - - - -	1,126	

AND ADDITIONALLY

I. To the following COURTS of JUSTICE, PUBLIC OFFICERS, and LIBRARIES, &c.

To the Rolls and Common Pleas - - - - -	2	
— the Court of the Arches, the Court of Admiralty, the Court of the Prerogative, and the Court of Consistory; *viz.* One Copy to the Registrar of each - - -	4	
— the Judge of the Court of Arches, of the Court of Prerogative, and of the Court of Consistory, One Copy each - - -	3	
— the Proctor of the Admiralty - - - - - -	1	
— the Courts of Session, Justiciary, and Exchequer in Scotland -	3	
— the Admiralty Court, - D° -	1	52
— the Commissary Court, - D° -	1	
— the Lords of Session, - - - D° -	15	
— the Barons of Exchequer, - - - D° -	5	
— the Lord Advocate of Scotland - - - -	1	
— the Solicitor General of Scotland - - - -	1	
— the Third Secretary of State and his Under Secretaries - - - - - -	3	
— the Admiralty, Navy, Ordnance Board, and the War Office - - - - -	4	
— the Commissioners of Customs, Excise, Stamps, and Taxes, in England and Scotland -	8	
Carried over - -	1,178	

To

Proposed Distribution of Public General Acts *continued.*

		Copies.
	Brought over - -	1,178
To the King's Library - - - - - -	1	
— the British Museum - - - - - -	1	
— the Libraries of the Four Inns of Court in London - - - - - - -	4	
— the Advocates' Library at Edinburgh - - -	1	— 14
— the Two English Universities - - - -	2	
— the Four Scottish Universities - - - -	4	
— the Register Office at Edinburgh - - -	1	
II. To the Sheriffs of each County, One Copy - - - - -		— 85
III. To the Clerks of the Peace under every Commission, One Copy - - - - - - -		— 106
IV. To the Lord Mayor, the Recorder, and the Town Clerk of London; to the Eight Public Offices of Justices for Middlesex and Surry; to the Lord Provost, and the Dean of the Guilds at Edinburgh; and to the Chief Magistrate, or Head Officer, of every other City, Borough, and Town Corporate, in England and Wales, and of every Royal Burgh in Scotland, One Copy each - - - -		— 379
V. To the Resident Acting Justices of the Peace under the 106 Commissions of the Peace in Great Britain -		1,788
		3,550

This

Propoſed Diſtribution of Public General Acts, *continued.*

THE following TABLE,

According to which the Public Acts may be diſtributed amongſt the reſident acting Juſtices of the Peace for each County, Riding, Diviſion, Stewartry, City, Borough, Town, or Liberty,

IS CONSTRUCTED UPON THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLE; *viz.*

A Diſtribution of *One* Copy to every ſuch Juſtice, where their Number does not exceed *Ten*; a Diſtribution of *Ten* Copies, where their Number exceeds *Ten* and does not exceed *Twenty*; a Diſtribution of *Twenty* Copies, where their Number exceeds *Twenty* and does not exceed *Fifty*; and a Diſtribution of *Twenty-five* Copies, where their Number exceeds *Fifty*; allowing, nevertheleſs, *Thirty* Copies for Middleſex, beſides the Copies allotted to the City of London, the City of Weſtminſter, the Liberty of the Tower, and the Public Offices of Juſtices, &c.

Copies for each Commiſſion.	Commiſſions claſſed according to the Numbers of their Acting Juſtices.	Commiſſions in each Claſs.	Copies to be diſtributed.
As many as Juſtices.	Not exceeding 10	23	128
10	Exceeding 10 and not exceeding 20.	16	160
20	Exceeding 20 and not exceeding 50	36	720
25	Exceeding 50, &c. &c. *N. B.* Thirty Copies for Middleſex, &c.	31	780
	Total -	106	1,788

DISTRI-

Propoſed Diſtribution of Public General Acts, *continued.*

DISTRIBUTION amongſt the Reſident ACTING JUSTICES Of the Peace.

ENGLAND.

COMMISSIONS.	Juſtices.	Copies.
Bedfordſhire - - -	17	10
Town of Bedford - -	2	2
Berkſhire - - -	47	20
Buckinghamſhire - - -	67	25
Town of Buckingham - -	2	2
Cambridgeſhire - - -	24	20
Town of Cambridge - -	5	5
Iſle of Ely - - -	9	9
Cheſhire - - - - -	41	20
Cornwall - - - -	62	25
Cumberland - - -	40	20
Derbyſhire - - - -	23	20
Devonſhire - - -	72	25
Dorſetſhire - - -	46	20
Durham - - -	50	20
Ebor or Yorkſhire, Eaſt Riding -	16	10
——— Weſt Riding -	34	20
——— North Riding -	64	25
Liberty of Cawood, Wiſtow, and Otley	5	5
Liberty of St. Peter - -	10	10
Liberty of the Archbiſhop of York; to wit, Rippon, Sutton under Whitſtonecliff, Kilburne, and Marton -	4	4
Eſſex - - - - -	110	25
Glouceſterſhire - - -	72	25

Proposed Distribution of Public General Acts, *continued*.

COMMISSIONS.	Justices.	Copies.
Herefordshire - - -	56	25
Hertfordshire - - -	54	25
Liberty of St. Alban - -	22	20
Borough of St. Alban - -	3	3
Huntingdonshire - - -	29	20
Kent - - - -	61	25
Lancashire - - - -	66	25
Leicestershire - - -	38	20
Lincolnshire, Kesteven - -	21	20
——— Lindsey - -	39	20
——— Holland - -	5	5
Middlesex - - -	158	30
City of Westminster - -	42	20
Liberty of the Tower of London -	31	20
Monmouthshire - - -	27	20
N[illegible]folk - - -	78	25
Northamptonshire - - -	32	20
Liberty of Peterborough - -	7	7
Northumberland - - -	24	20
Nottinghamshire - - -	25	20
Liberty of Southwell and Scrooby -	9	9
Oxfordshire - - -	30	20
Oxford City - -	9	9
Rutlandshire - - - -	12	10
Shropshire - - -	55	25
Somersetshire - - -	97	25
Borough of Taunton - -	5	5
Southampton or Hants - -	70	25
Staffordshire - - -	50	20

Suffolk

Propoſed Diſtribution of Public General Acts, *continued.*

COMMISSIONS.	Juſtices.	Copies.
Suffolk - - -	64	25
Borough of Sudbury - -	2	2
Surrey - - -	97	25
Suſſex - - -	52	25
Warwickſhire - - -	34	20
Weſtmorland - - -	16	10
Worceſterſhire - - -	58	25
Wiltſhire - - -	51	25
	2,351	1,062

WALES.

Angleſea - - - -	11	10
Brecknockſhire - - - -	28	20
Cardiganſhire - - - -	19	10
Carmarthenſhire - - - -	38	20
Carnarvonſhire - - -	16	10
Denbighſhire - - - -	33	20
Flintſhire - - -	20	10
Glamorganſhire - - -	43	20
Merionethſhire - - -	7	7
Montgomeryſhire - - -	20	10
Pembrokeſhire - - -	46	20
Town and County of the Town of Haverford Weſt - - -	5	5
Radnorſhire - - - - -	19	10
	305	172

SCOTLAND.

Propoſed Diſtribution of Public General Acts, *continued*.

SCOTLAND.

COMMISSIONS.	Juſtices.	Copies.
Aberdeenſhire - - -	146	25
Ayrſhire - - - -	105	25
Argyllſhire - - -	79	25
Banffſhire - - - -	84	25
Berwickſhire - - -	47	20
Bute - - - -	8	8
Caithneſs - - - -	8	8
Clackmannanſhire - - -	4	4
Cromartyſhire - - -	4	4
Dumbartonſhire - - -	31	20
Dumfrieſhire - - -	126	25
Edinburghſhire - - -	49	20
Elginſhire - - -	35	20
Forfarſhire - - - -	51	25
Fifeſhire - - - -	104	25
Haddingtonſhire - - -	37	20
Inverneſsſhire - - -	103	25
Kincardineſhire - - -	20	10
Kinroſsſhire - - -	17	10
Kirkcudbright, Stewartry - -	20	10
Lanarkſhire - - -	63	25
Llinlithgowſhire - - -	6	6
Nairnſhire - - -	8	8
Orkney and Zetland - - -	3	3
Peebleſhire - - -	15	10
Perthſhire - - -	57	25
Renfrewſhire - - -	29	20

Roſs

Propoſed Diſtribution of Public General Acts, *continued.*

COMMISSIONS.	Juſtices.	Copies.
Roſs - - -	67	25
Roxburghſhire - - -	43	20
Selkirkſhire - - -	8	8
Stirlingſhire - - -	45	20
Sutherland - - -	28	20
Wigtownſhire - - -	13	10
	1,463	554

TOTALS.

Juſtices -	2,351	England - -	1,062	Copies.
	305	Wales - -	172	
	1,463	Scotland - -	554	
Total -	4,119		1,788	Total.

VIII.

Proposed Scheme for the Distribution of the Local and Private Acts.

		Copies.
The House of Peers and its Officers, &c.*	10	46
The House of Commons and its Officers †	8	
The Lord Chancellor	1	
The Speaker of the House of Commons	1	
The Privy Council	2	
The Treasury	2	
The Archbishop of Canterbury	1	
The Secretaries of State, Home and Foreign, viz. One for each	2	
The Master of the Rolls	1	
The Judges, viz. One for each	12	
The Attorney General	1	
The Solicitor General	1	
The King's Proctor	1	
The Hanaper Office	1	
The Crown Office	1	
The Court of King's Bench	1	

* The Ten Copies to the House of Peers, &c. are to be distributed thus:

The House	1
The Chancellor or Speaker	1
The Clerk of the Parliament	1
The Clerk Assistant	1
The Reading Clerk	1
The Clerk of the Journals	1
The Copying Clerk	1
The Judge Advocate	1
The Judge of the Admiralty	1
The King's Advocate	1
	10

† The Eight Copies to the House of Commons, &c. are to be distributed to the same Persons as receive them under the Delivery to the House of Commons, in No. I. of this Appendix.

AND

Propoſed Diſtribution of the Local and Private Acts, *continued.*

		Copies.
Brought over -	-	46
AND ADDITIONALLY,		
The Courts of the Maſter of the Rolls, and the Common Pleas - - - - -	2	
The Courts of the Arches, Admiralty, Prerogative, and Conſiſtory, One Copy each -	4	
The Courts of Seſſion, Juſticiary, Exchequer, Admiralty, and Commiſſary, in Scotland -	5	
The Lords of Seſſion and Barons of Exchequer, D°	20	
The Lord Advocate - - - D° - -	1	
The Solicitor General - - - D° - -	1	48
The Third Secretary of State - -	1	
The King's Library - - -	1	
The Britiſh Muſeum - - -	1	
The Libraries of the Inns of Court in London -	4	
The Advocates' Library at Edinburgh - -	1	
The Two Engliſh Univerſities - -	2	
The Four Scottiſh Univerſities - -	4	
The Regiſter Office at Edinburgh - -	1	
The Clerk of the Peace for every Commiſſion of the Peace in Great Britain - - -	-	106
Total of Copies -	-	200

FINIS.

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